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TRAVERSING THE YELLOW RIVER CANYON IN WINTER

189

Shenzhen Bay – A Dreamland for Relaxation

"Yan Can Cook" in Xi'an

Mysterious Ancient Bronze Weapons Unearthed in Yunnan

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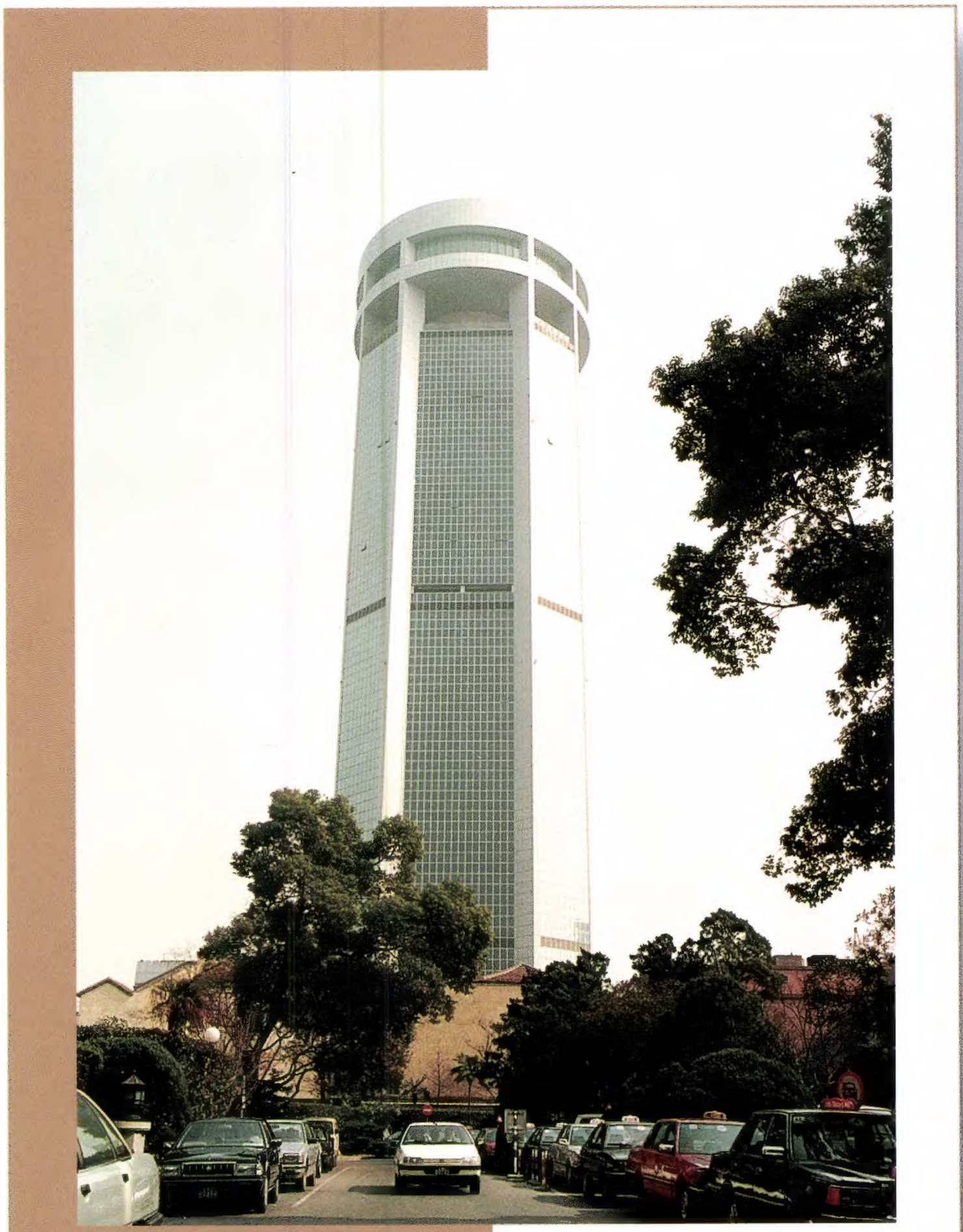

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LIFE ON A KNIFE'S EDGE

Stretching from the highlands of Junggar in Inner Mongolia to end 200 kilometres further south at the Hukou (Teapot Spout) Waterfalls in Jixian County the Yellow River has carved out, as if by the stroke of a giant sword, a deep ravine forming a natural borderline between the provinces of Shaanxi and Shanxi. Winter temperatures of -20 ℃ create huge chunks of ice on the river's surface but its force is so great that they are pressed grinding and screeching down river, some becoming grounded on the banks of the river. An unprecedented snowfall and a series of detours and setbacks herald the start of this trek along the precipitous Yellow River Canyon. In biting cold winds our reporter visits the townships who have made this area, high on the Loess Plateau, their home. As expected, villagers have adapted their life style and abodes to suit their surroundings but the stone town of Jiaxian greatly impressed our reporter. Seemingly impossible, the stone houses and temples have been built along a sheer mountaintop ridge similar to a knife's edge!

In complete contrast we move to the warmer climates of Shenzhen Bay where the appeal of diverse dining, non-stop entertainment, shopping and well-known tourist attractions appeal to the weekend traveller. Covering nearly 100 hectares in total the most popular attractions Window of the World, Splendid China and China Folk Culture Villages enable travellers to see the world and China in only a fraction of the time and cost. Still on the theme of culinary delights our second report on the filming of the *Yan Can Cook* series heads to Xi'an where a reconstruction of the terracotta warriors (Yan-style) causes some problems and a couple of the local delicacies from the infamous food stalls are sampled, such as the black rice of Chenggu once served to the court of the Tang Emperor. Stepping back in time some 2,000 years our report on ancient bronze weapons unearthed in Yunnan Province may send a chill or two down the spine as you turn the pages to see swords and axes depicting head-hunting scenes and tortured prisoners.

China TOURISM

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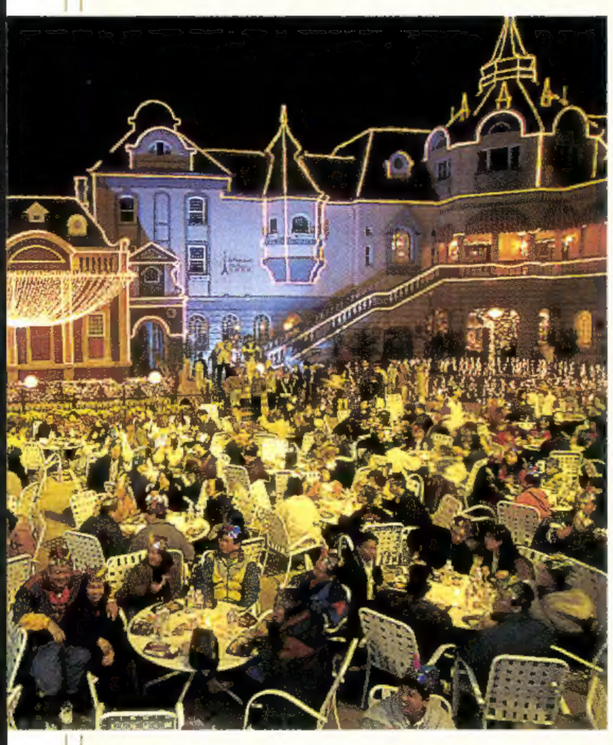
Thankfully there will always be those willing to venture further afield to remote areas and to share their new experiences with us.... In freezing winds our reporter witnesses hazardous roads, impossibly built townships and the rugged life style of the villagers along the Yellow River Canyon, on the Shaanxi-Shanxi border.



Shenzhen Bay – A Dreamland for Relaxation

A potpourri of entertainment, amusements, culinary delights and attractions make-up the backbone of Shenzhen Bay, Guangdong Province. Together with convenient transportation and ample accommodation it makes an ideal get-away for a weekend break or short stay trip.

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Mysterious Ancient Bronze Weapons Unearthed in Yunnan

These 2,000-year-old relics unearthed in Yunnan Province constitute the finest collection of bronzeware weapons at the Yunnan Provincial Museum. So unique are their designs that they have been classified into a separate bronzeware category called Dian Culture.

Front Cover: *Dragon Dance at the China Folk Culture Carnival Parade at China Folk Culture Villages, Shenzhen (by Chat Yat Nin)*

VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

Traversing the Yellow River Canyon in Winter

Pedlars from Shanxi Province take the ferry boat with the flock of sheep they have purchased at the Jiaxian market, in neighbouring Shaanxi Province.

Once again, I was returning to the Loess Plateau. Caught in the middle of an unprecedented heavy snowfall in early winter all the planes were grounded, I had no option but to board a night bus setting off from Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi Province. The cold did not really bother me while the bus was driving on the lower

plain, but once it passed Tongchuan I began to feel the chill in my legs.

The snow became heavier as the bus drove into the mountains at Yijun. Although the cold made it very difficult to sleep, a day and night of heavy travel began to take its toll and soon I dozed off....

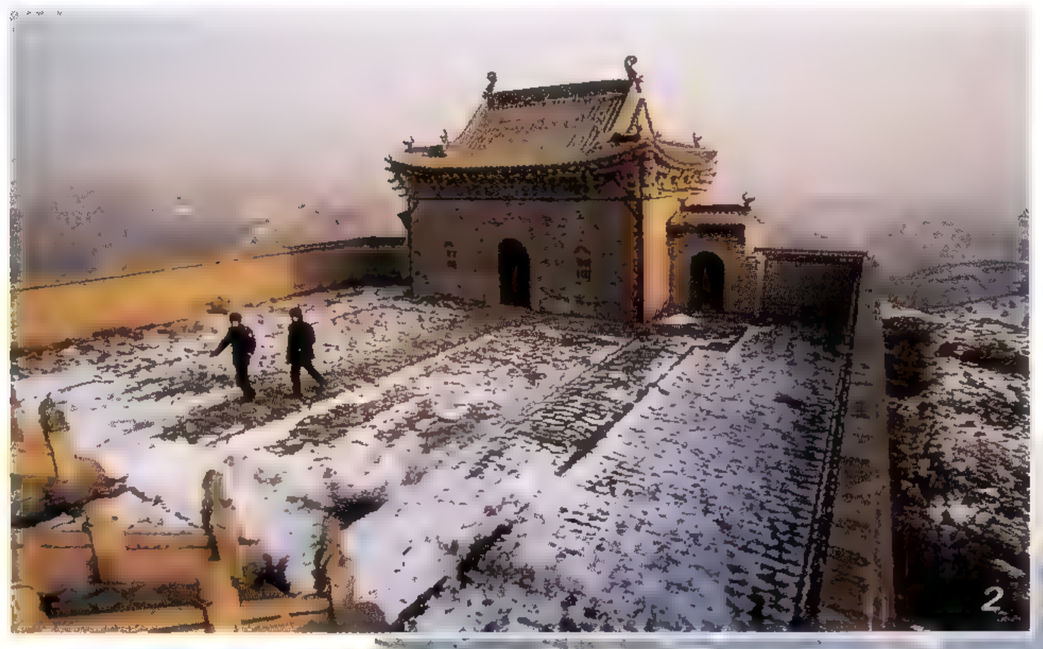
I was suddenly woken up. I looked out of the window to see vehicles parked in all directions. It turned out that we had arrived at the top of the summit at Yijun but the road down the mountain was covered with so much ice and snow that our bus could not control its speed and bumped into the jeep in front. Another bus skidded across the road, with a fleet of other vehicles piled up behind it. They turned on their lights and blasted their horns, turning the whole summit into chaos. By the time the jeep was fixed, it was already 5:00 in the morning.

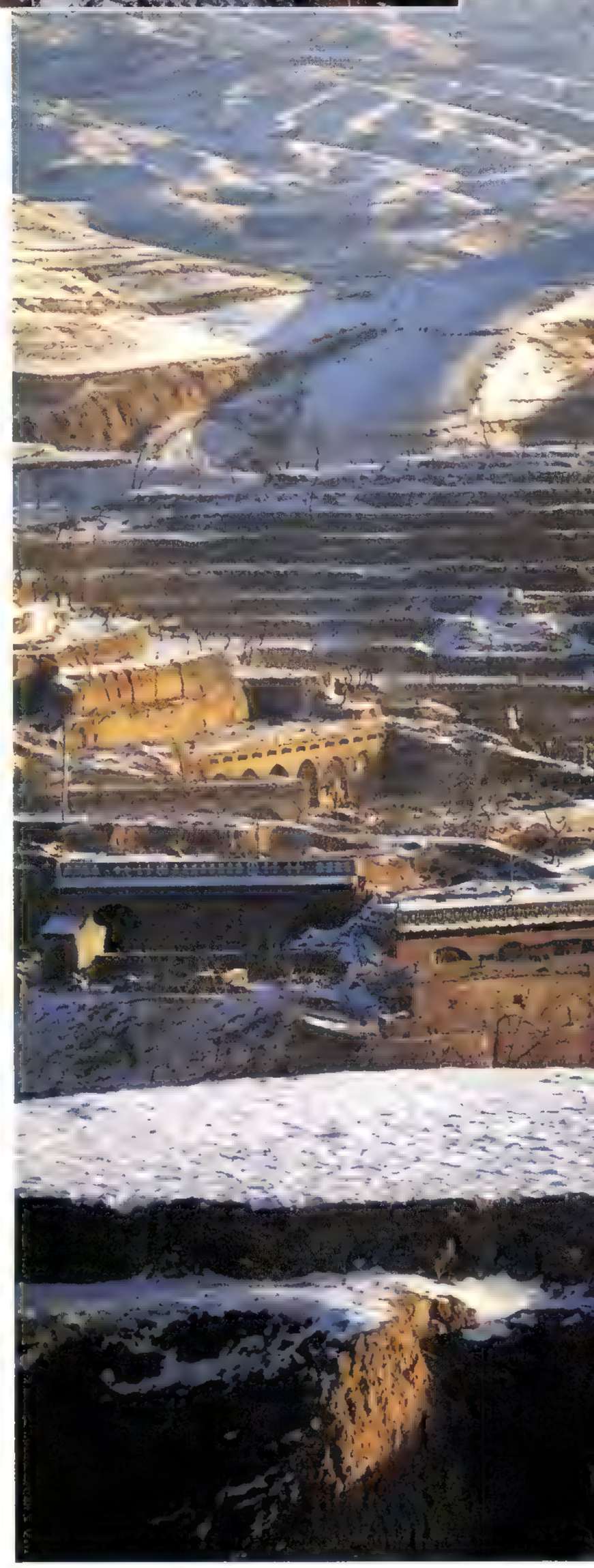
IN DANGER A SECOND TIME

We continued on our way again but our driver became more cautious. The bus moved forward gingerly and it was already noon when at long last it carefully arrived at Yan'an. After the hazardous night, the driver refused to go any further north. I had to catch a passenger van in the street. Though this driver had said he was going to Yulin, he changed his mind when we arrived at Suide and refused to go further. I had to change bus again – this time a bus on its way back to Yulin.

The bus drove away from Suide in the dusk, past Mizhi and entered the territory of Yulin. At this moment the snow, which had been continuous for three days, stopped. The cold moon which had just shown its face shrouded the snowy land on the Wuding River, a tributary at the middle reaches of the Yellow River, with soft purple rays of light.

While enjoying the snow scene of northern China, I suddenly felt the bus jerk violently. Almost at the same time, a fire ball flashed from under the bus and rolled away down into the roadside ditch.





在一溜冰場裡，我乘的車子剎不住閘，撞向了前面的一輛「吉普」，那小車像被狙擊的桌球一般飛滑了出去，迎面撞向上山的一輛巴士

1. On the bank of the Wuding River
2. In the mountains of Fugu County, stands a beamless brick building.
3. Pupils carrying firewood to school to keep themselves warm
4. The Yellow River Canyon between Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces is enclosed by sheer loess highland.

Built on a huge rock, Xianglu (Incense Burner) Temple looks like a long-legged incense burner in an ancient temple.

The bus driver stopped, hurriedly jumped off, ran to the rear section of the bus and his face revealed an expression of dismay. Following other passengers, I too got off the bus and was dumfounded by what I saw. One of the rear wheels had been reduced to a red hot iron disc and the smell of the burning rubber assailed our nostrils.

Obviously the bus could not go any further and it seemed I now had to push along on foot for the remaining 20 kilometres to the city of Yulin. It was mid-night in a world of ice and snow and the temperature was less than -20 °C. Travelling on foot in such conditions one might easily freeze to death. I rounded up several other "fellow refugees" and followed the road into a nearby village. We knocked at a grocery store which was closed and the hospitable owner opened up and made us sit around a stove to warm up. We sat there till daybreak and took an early bus to Yulin.

ICE AFLOAT ON THE YELLOW RIVER

In the morning of the fourth day, I arrived at the bank of the Yellow River marking the border between northern Fugu County of Shaanxi and Inner Mongolia. As the Yellow River thrusts down from the highland of Junggar in Inner Mongolia, its surface was covered with huge chunks of ice which collided with each other, making a grinding noise. Those grounded on the bank grew into huge piles.

Across the river is the town of Hequ in Shanxi which was now also covered in snow. The Shanxi-Shaanxi Yellow River Canyon begins here, the Yellow River flowing south and extends nearly 400 kilometres to the Hukou (Teapot Spout) Waterfall, Jixian County to end at the town of Longmen further south.

Like a sharp sword, the Yellow River has carved the Loess Plateau into a valley which forms a natural border separating Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces. For ages, the only means of transportation across the river was by wooden boats. Now several bridges span the river making travel easier and quicker.

The Beijing Jeep which I had rented returned along the snow-covered earth road to the county town of Fugu. Here a highway bridge leads to Baode County, Shanxi on the other side of the Yellow River. On the vast areas along the bank were carts pulled by oxen, horses and tricycles. People milled about in the crowd. This was a local trade market for the people on the border.

I listened to the bargaining going on between people and found that people coming from opposite sides of the river

spoke different dialects. Their clothes were also different. Though elder men from both regions loved to wear turbans fashioned from a white face towel, the way they wrapped it on their head was different. People in northern Shaanxi wore it from the back of their head and left a huge tie on the forehead, while those in northern Shanxi wore the tie at the back.

A STONE TOWN

Leaving Fugu and arriving in Shenmu, I ascended the Erlang

Mountain. On the mountain ridge which was so narrow that it can be compared with a knife's edge, small temples have been built. When I arrived at Yulin it was in the small hours. Early next morning, I got on my way again – along another section of dangerous roads covered with ice and snow. It was dark when I arrived at Jiaxian where I once again saw the Yellow River afloat with huge chunks of ice. Taking two full days, I had made a great detour, but it was the only choice, for it was obviously too difficult to build a road through the canyon right along the river with such steep mountains on both sides.

I have been to mountainous towns before, but none of them like Jiaxian – the entire town stands high on the mountain summit, enclosed by precipitous rocks on three sides. Especially on the side facing the Yellow River, there isn't room for a single mountain rat to stand on, except for a few eagles' nests.

The rock city is now in poor condition and the streets paved with stone slabs rise and fall with the mountain terrain. Needless to say, the residential houses, stores, and even county government office buildings for the Finance Bureau, the Agriculture and Forestry Bureau and the Bureau of Politics and Law are all built from stone. As these government buildings and offices stand alongside residential houses in the small lanes, it would be very difficult to locate them if it were not for the sign boards in front of their gates.

TAOIST TEMPLE AT BAIYUN MOUNTAIN

I got up early the next morning and came down from the mountain town along the path still covered with snow. In the distance, I could see the surface of the river at the bottom of the canyon was cast by a morning glow of golden yellow rays. On the right bank of the Yellow River, red sunlight reflectioned a vision of a "fairy land" created by the Baiyunshan (White Cloud Mountain) Taoist Temple.

Located five kilometres to the east of the county seat of Jiaxian and about one kilometre away from the west bank of the Yellow River the temple was built in 1605 during the Ming Dynasty and rebuilt and expanded in 1724 during the Qing. It is the largest architectural complex of these two dynasties to be found in Shanxi. With 52 halls, pavilions and towers in various shapes, constructed amidst pines and cypresses, from a distance it looks like a fairytale palace floating in cloud, hence it is known as "wonderful scene in clouds".

Every mid-March, there is a grand temple fair here when pilgrims converge from more than 20 countries in both provinces of Shanxi and Shaanxi, travelling along hundreds of mountain trails, crossing mountains and valleys in order to offer worship or have their fortune told. The Yellow River during this time is filled with boats carrying passengers to and fro.

In my case, I came to the mountain on one of the deadliest winter days. I ascended the mountain by riding in the jeep, then walked through the temple and went down the mountain. Along the way I met no more than a dozen tourists.

I heard that to the northeast of Jiaxian there was a small temple built on a huge rock, and the Holy Mother Shrine with a complex of halls, houses, mountain gate and stone archways, called Xianglu (Incense Burner). The later is known as the "Lesser Penglai (a fabled abode of immortals)" when reflected in the Yellow River waters at sunset. As winter is not a suitable time to visit there, I had to give them up.

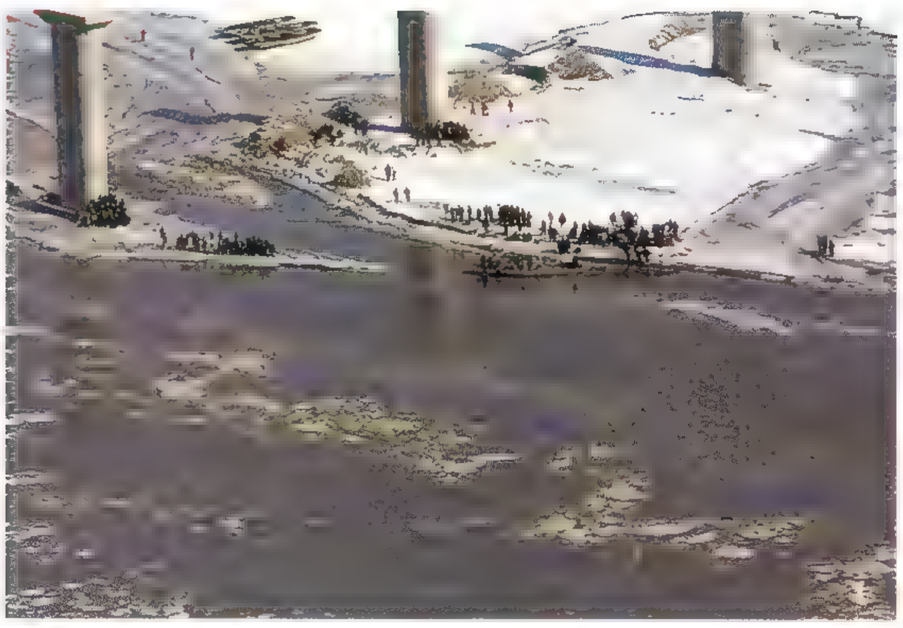
WOODEN AND IRON BOATS

On the snowy banks of the Yellow River, there was simply no place to take shelter from the biting wind. However, the workers operating the ferry boats were sweating.

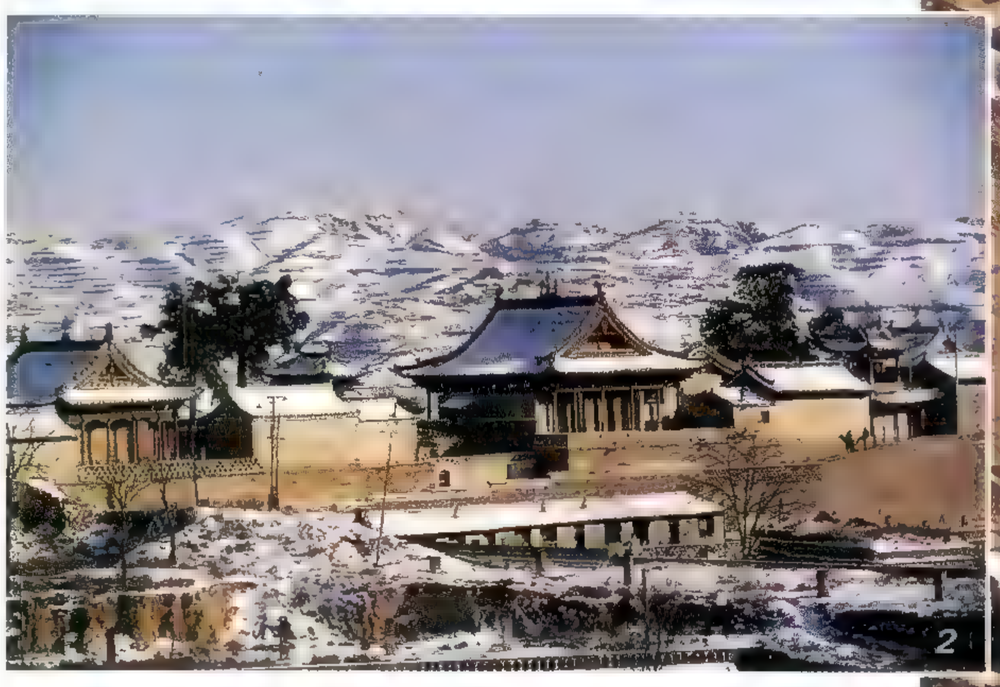
They had just unloaded the coal being transported to Shanxi when some Shanxi folk who had just finished visiting the market in Jiaxian gathered on the opposite bank, shouting and yelling, urging the ferry boatmen to come back and take them home. Some of them pulled lambs, others held goat skins, others carried red dates – all indigenous Shaanxi produce to be bought at bargain prices. People in Shanxi are good at business. Traditionally, the province has produced many merchants and in every province in northern China, there were stores owned by Shanxi people and associates of Shanxi merchants.

The several dozen people who had been standing on the bank now boarded a ship which easily accommodated their number. The boat operator said that the iron boats today were not only spacious,

1. Stepping onto the Yellow River bridge at Fugu, you enter the territory of Shanxi.
2. The rather traditional-looking canyon residents turn out fashionable furniture.
3. A market in a small mountain town
4. At the morning market in the Yulin City street, steaming hot rice cakes are sold.



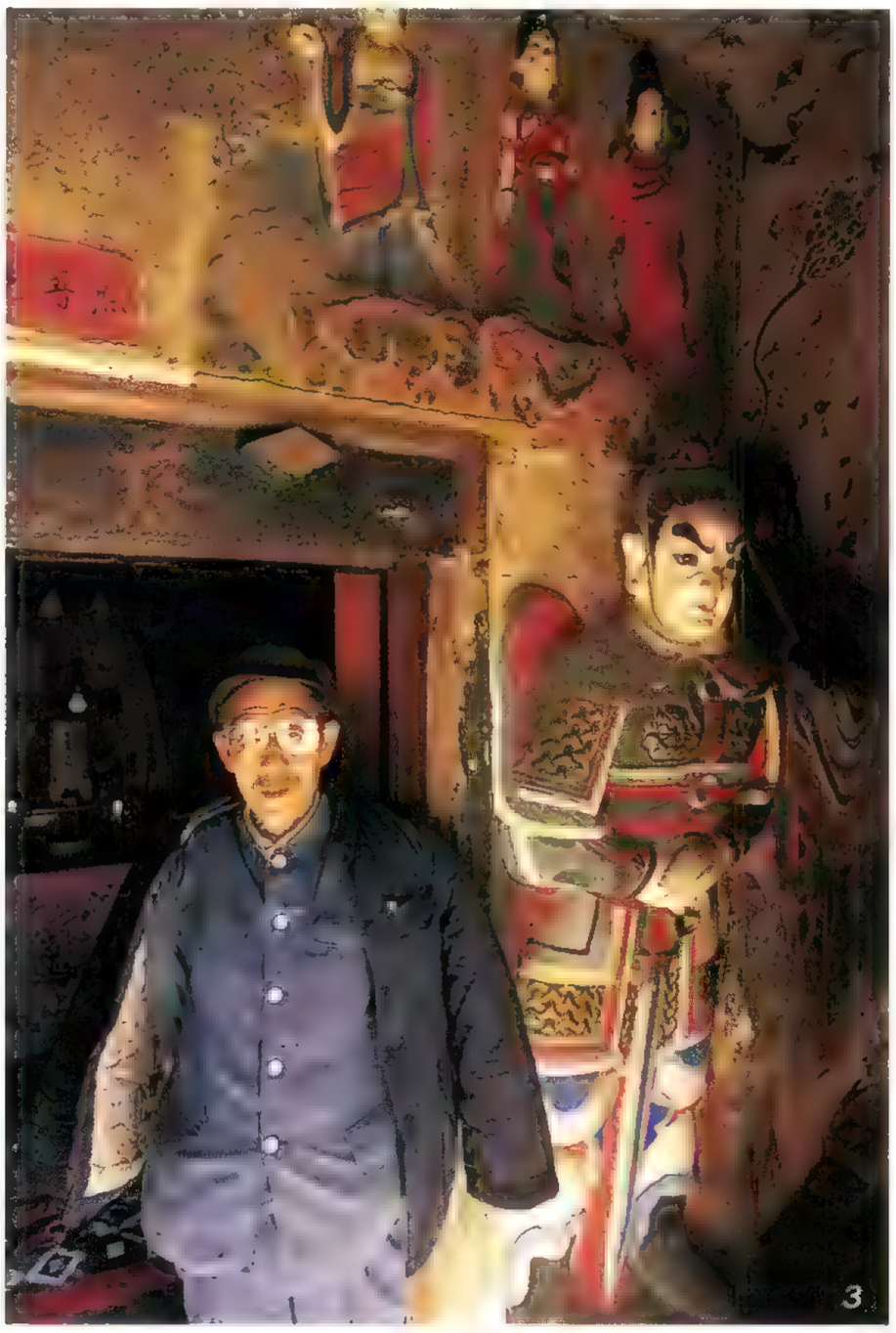
but were much faster as they were driven by motors. He and his folks no longer had to muster all their strength to row the boat across risking their lives in the turbulent waters as they had in the past. Pointing at the fast floating ice, the boat operator told me that at smaller ferry points, wooden boats were still in use, but that they would not operate when there was ice in the river.



PATCHED CLOTH – LOCAL ART

Ordinarily, it would take just one day to travel from Jiaxian to Mizhi, turning eastward to arrive at Wubu in the lower reaches of the Yellow River. At the bus stop I found out that due to the snow and mountainous terrain, I had to take another detour. Thus I went back to Yulin for the third time and then turned south to Mizhi and Suide where I changed to a bus for Wubu.

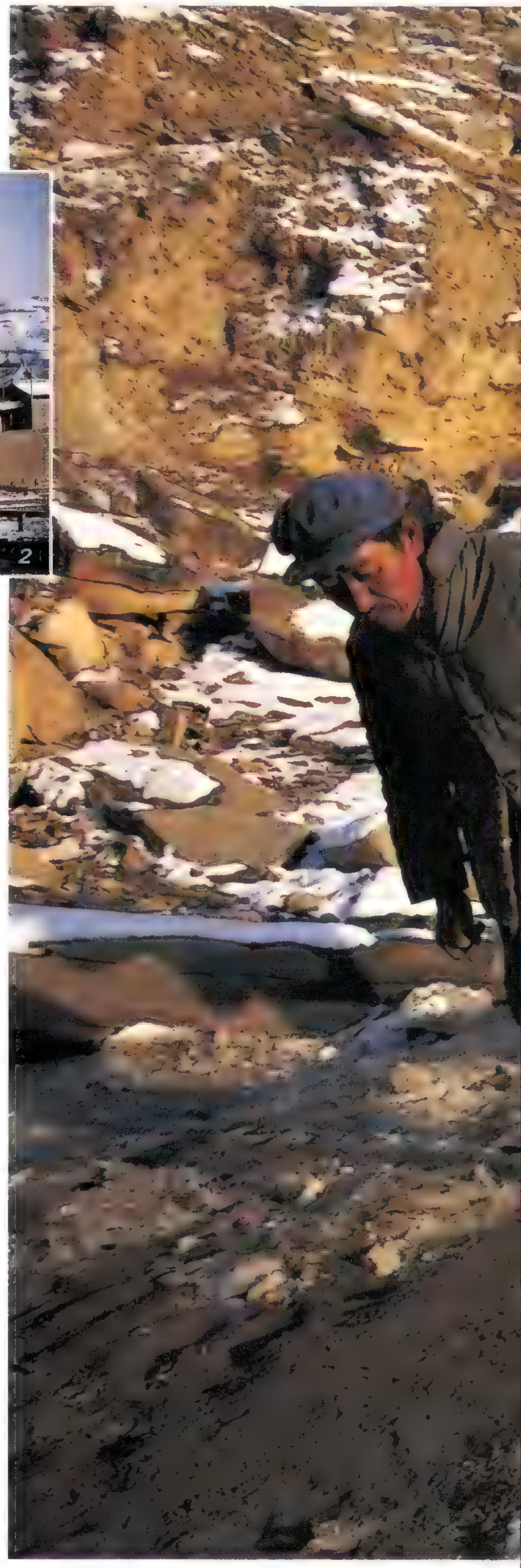
The Yellow River widened at this point and its flow gained momentum. Wubu County, by contrast, was simply too small with just one street beside the river lasting no more than a five-minute walk. Those living close by even get their drinking water straight from the river.



I did not stay long at Wubu, but returned to Suide the same night. The next day I arrived in Yan'an. Mr. Feng at the city's Cultural Palace found me a Beijing Jeep. With Feng as our guide, we drove off to Yanchuan in order to see the artistic "masterpieces" created by local women.

Though most of the women producing the cloth patchwork are young and do not have much schooling, their scissors work miraculously on the colourful cloth as if driven by some magical force. They do not need a blueprint, nor a sketch and in fact they never wait to think before they start working with the scissors, and soon patterns of flowers, birds, insects, sheep and oxen cover their bed. Their inspirations come from their folklore tales and nature.

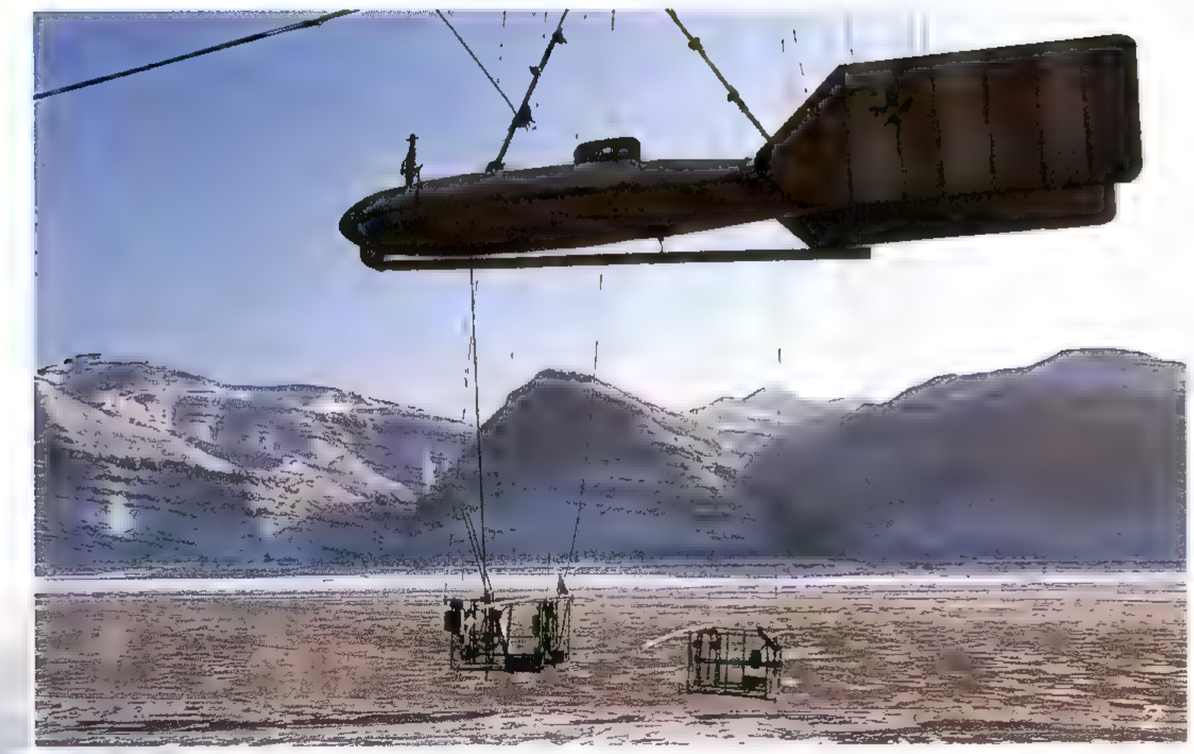
Who taught them? The women laughed and asked back: Did this need to be taught? Life for the people in the mountainous regions is poor and for generations they have been clad in clothes with patches.



1. A highway bridge is being built on the Yellow River.
2. The Taoist temple at White Cloud Mountain in Jiaxian
3. Buddha statues in this small temple outside Jiaxian are chiselled into the mountain.
4. Here ferrymen work all year round.

向岸边作的大坡，逐渐水的岸边集在河岸上，尤其被黄河改
河作警的触触，把河沙激湖的游河水用顺的土夫

1. The Yellow River widens in Wubu County.
2. Hydrological survey on the Yellow River



When they mend clothes for their children, they simply stitch on patches of patterned cloth to cover up the holes, which makes the clothes look beautiful and serves the practical purpose of making them last longer.

WUDING – EMPTYING INTO THE YELLOW RIVER

Originally I intended to visit Yanshuiguan Village, an ancient passageway on the west bank of the Yellow River. However, I had to give up the idea since the warm weather had melted the ice and snow, making the already dangerous road even more difficult to travel. I thus turned towards the Wuding River.

On this route, the dirt track road spiraling the mountains made the journey too risky. Snow had melted on the sunny side of the mountain slopes but underneath the slushy mud was hard ice, making the road extremely slippery. Driving with extreme vigilance, we finally saw the canyon of the Yellow River. The Wuding meanders through the deep valleys enclosed by sharp cliffs, twisting and turning and then going through a rather straight section of canyon before it empties into the south-bound Yellow River.

We went down to the bottom of the canyon to a village nestled between the two rivers. Here we had a special lunch in the cave dwelling of a villager. For generations, local people live in this kind of man-made cave dug out on the slope of a hill. Owing to its loose texture, loess is easy to dig, yet the dug-out cave with a vault ceiling is remarkably durable and stable, thanks to the arid climatical conditions on the Loess Plateau. Living in such structures, cave dwellers do not suffer from cold in winter nor from heat in summer. We sat cross-legged on the huge earth bed heated from underneath feeling extremely warm and comfortable, and watched three generations of family busy around the stove. A wooden "machine" sat across the huge boiling cauldron and the old landlady stuck a piece of buckwheat dough into a round hole on the "machine". The father and son pushed a stick hard into the hole, forcing the dough down. Thin long

Reporter's Route Along the Yellow River Canyon

noodles came out through the many small holes at the bottom and fell into the boiling water. The daughter-in-law waved a pair of bamboo chopsticks, stirring the noodles in the cauldron. Her daughter added firewood to the stove. In less than half an hour, bowls of noodles were served on the small table on the bed. What a unique way of

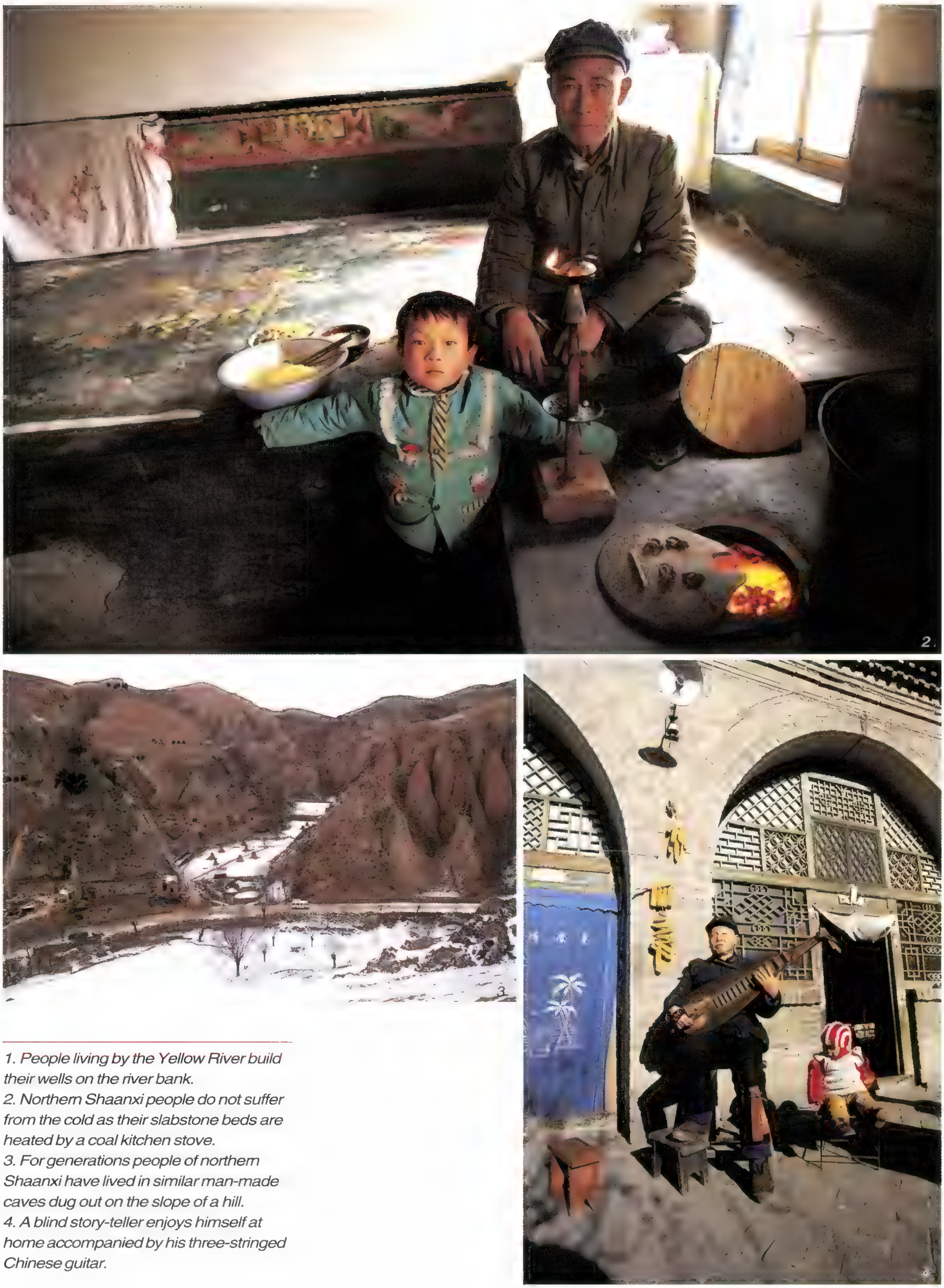
making noodles! The host picked up a handful of buckwheat and showed it to me. The shiny triangular-shaped buckwheat grains, reddish purple in colour, were the size of green beans. It seemed somewhat strange that the yellow coloured land watered with the yellow coloured water yielded agricultural produce mostly red in colour. The buckwheat is reddish purple, sorghum is brownish red, chilly peppers are bright red and the dates are dark red....

The long Yellow River Canyon has always nurtured the crops and people along the river banks. It may not possess the natural beauty of the Three Gorges on the Yangtse River, but it does have a simple and vigorous momentum unique to itself as well as a special charm known to few people in the world.

Translated by Huang Youyi
Photos & Article by Shi Bao Xiu

洛德定居後，無定河流經的峽谷，無定河有如一條細細的溫柔，在黃土千仞的深谷中，迴繞盤旋千百轉，最後，[illegible]

1. The red dates produced in Yanchuan are large, thin skinned and sweet.
2. Tradition mixed with modern trends inside a cave dwelling
3. Women in Yanchuan have deft hands and produce beautiful patchworks.
4. The Wuding River twists and turns before it flows into the Yellow River in Yanchuan.



1. People living by the Yellow River build their wells on the river bank.
2. Northern Shaanxi people do not suffer from the cold as their slabstone beds are heated by a coal kitchen stove.
3. For generations people of northern Shaanxi have lived in similar man-made caves dug out on the slope of a hill.
4. A blind story-teller enjoys himself at home accompanied by his three-stringed Chinese guitar.

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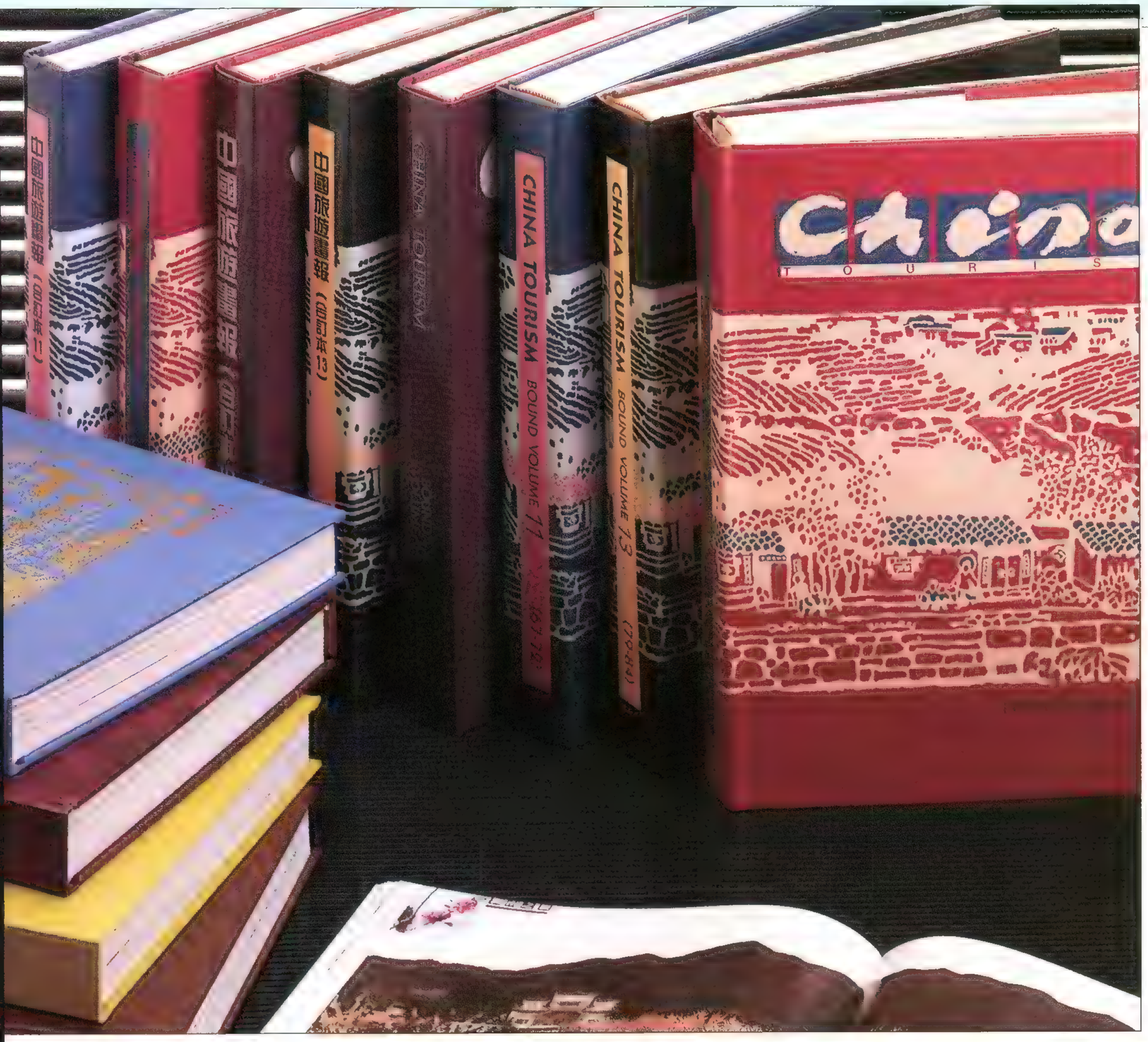

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Shenzhen Bay

A trip to Shenzhen is not complete without visiting Shenzhen Bay Holiday Resort.

In June 1994 it was listed as one of Guangdong's provincial tourist areas but Shenzhen Bay is aiming at the glory of becoming one of the State-level tourist areas.

Located to the west of Shenzhen City this tourist resort offers attractions such as Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot, China Folk Culture Villages, Window of the World, Shenzhen Bay Hotel and Hai Jing Hotel and stretches westward to include the Shahe Golf Club, Mingshang Light Golf Club, and Futian Mangrove Reserve to its east.

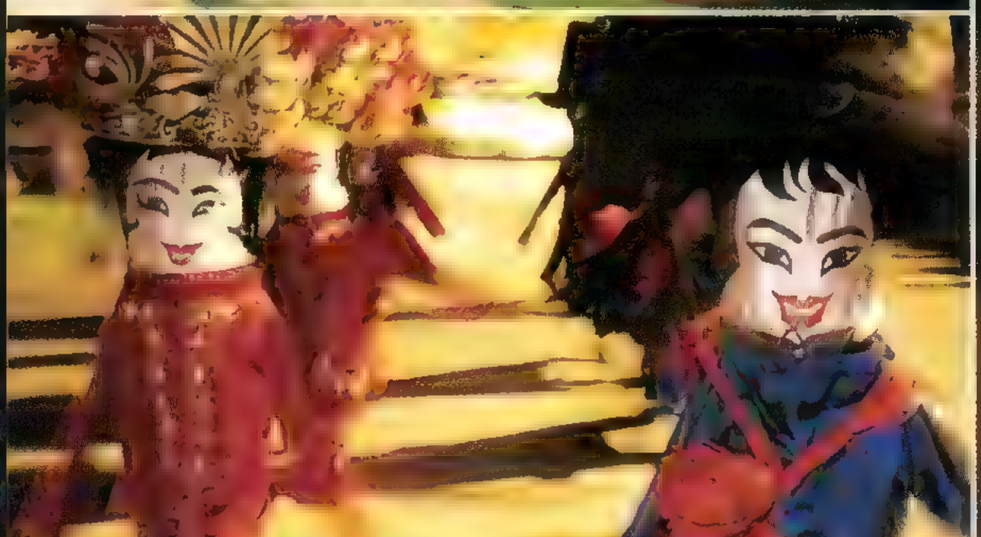
The most popular tourist attractions are, without doubt, Splendid China, China Folk Culture Villages and Window of the World. Apart from their abundant exhibits of scenic spots, they include a regularly updated programme of artistic performances. More over, transport and shopping are convenient here and many high-grade restaurants are located nearby. As a matter of fact, Shenzhen Bay is a dreamland both for holidaymaking and relaxation.

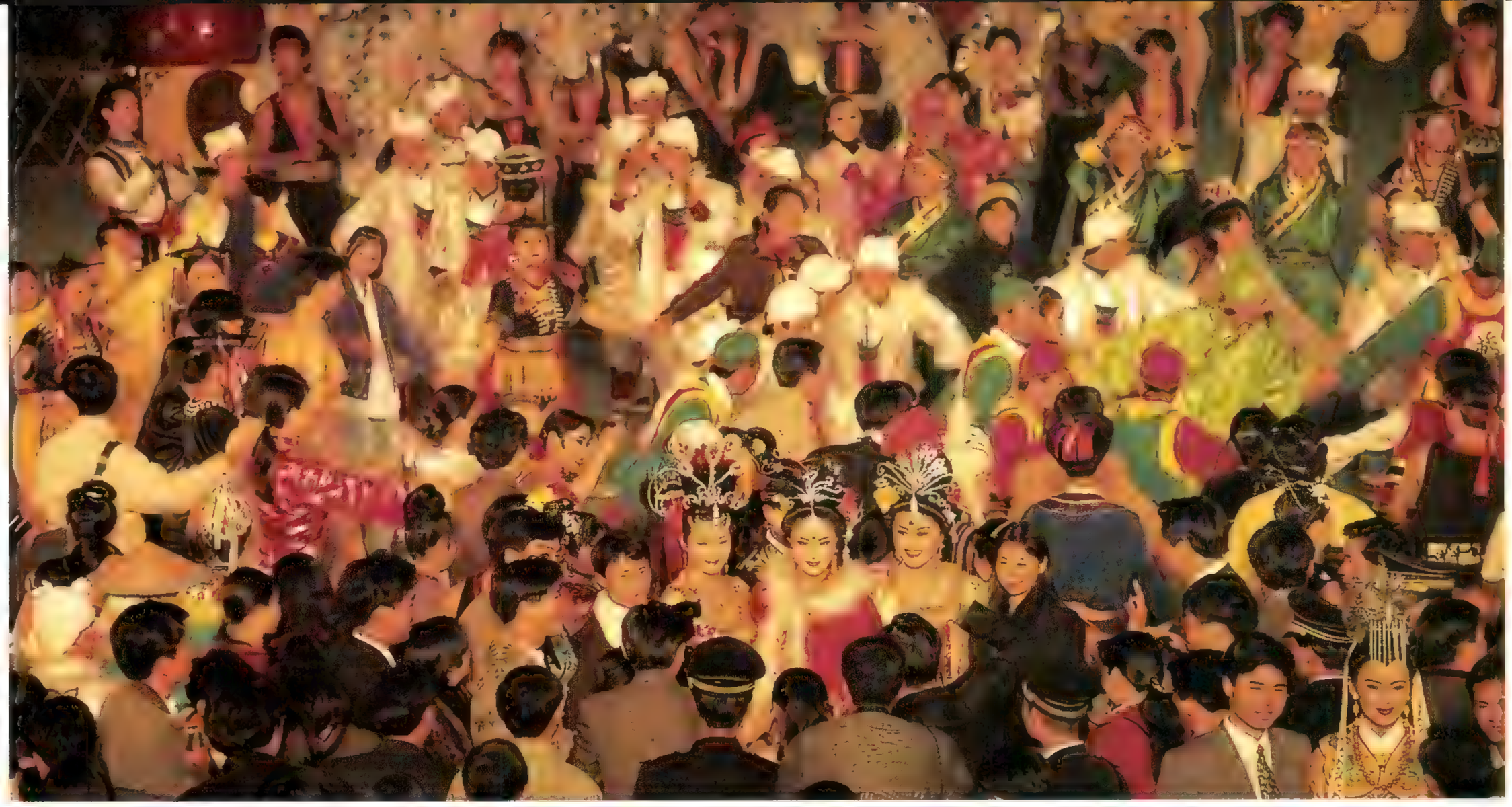
– A Dreamland for Relaxation

It all began when the lights over the square dimmed, the totem poles were suddenly

A Night of Jubilance

surrounded by 20 strapping young men, thick smoke belching forth from their torches.





China Folk Culture Carnival Parade

Translated by Ling Yuan
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie

To continuously renew the programme of performances China Folk Culture Villages dished out a hefty 10 million yuan to hire 500 actors and actresses of various ethnic backgrounds for a one-hour "China Folk Culture Carnival Parade", beginning nightly from July 15, 1995. The programme features a variety show on the lawn, a float parade, stunts performed from a rooftop stage, and a flying trapeze. The carnival falls into five parts:

Commencing the Carnival A team of burly men declare the gala open by beating large gongs and letting out a roar. Then the drums start rumbling and dancers, with colourful silk ribbons spilling from their hands, come onto the stage and begin the Navigation Flag Dance and the Dance of Pennants. Each dance is choreographed with distinctively powerful movements to help build up the momentum of the gala evening.

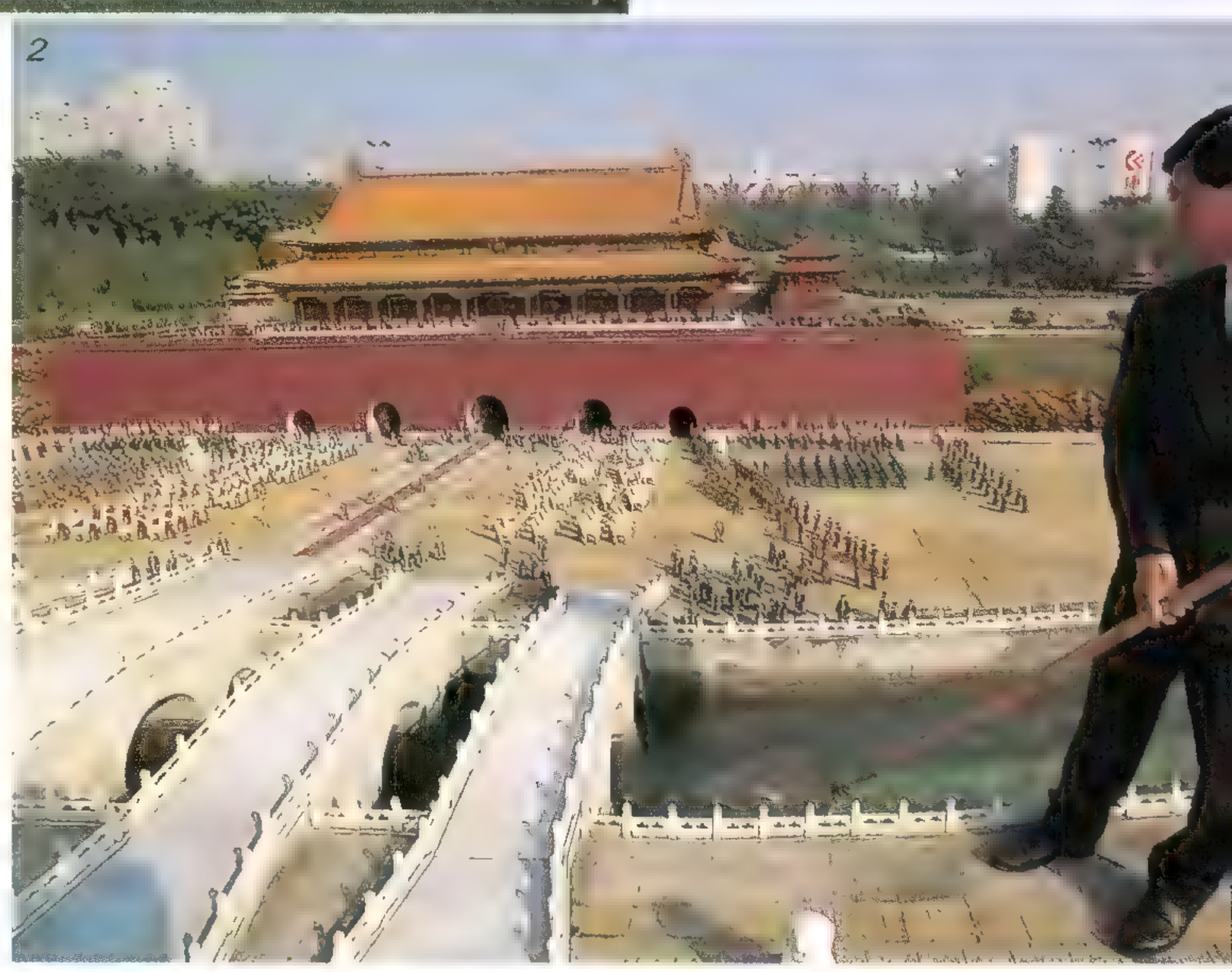
Colourful Lantern Show While the revellers are mesmerized by the sweet, melodious notes of traditional Chinese music, the surrounding link road is illuminated by a belt of multi-coloured lanterns, which are clustered into a variety of patterns with fascinating names such as "Holy Mother in Heaven", "Kaleidoscopic Changes", "Stunning Beauty" and "The Charm of Dunhuang Grottoes". The scene becomes all the more exciting when the parade of a dozen or so colourful floats passes by.

Parade of Colourful Floats The parade is led by a float aptly named "No. 1 Drummer of China". While the drums on the first float reverberate, imaginatively decorated floats emerge one after another, each one bearing a fascinating name, such as "Chang Eh Flying to the Moon", "The Silk Road" and "Fire-Tempered Eyes". The parade is followed by ethnic dances, including the Yi people's Dance of Long-Stemmed Pipes, the Korean Big-Fan Dance, the Mongolian dance, and the Reed-Pipe Dance of the Miao people.

Flying Trapeze From a stage set on the rooftop of a building, the Kazaks and young female acrobats entertain the merry-makers to a display of open-air stunts.

Chinese Dragon Dance The parade culminates with a dance of five dragons in different colours, which guarantees to fill the stage with swinging legs and tangled bodies.

1. Relaxing beneath the "Potala Palace" one feels as though one were in Lhasa, Tibet.
2. "Jinshui (Gold Water) Bridge" in front of "Tian'anmen Gate"
3. Yuanmingyuan - a newly developed scenic spot at Splendid China
4. Visitors can dress as a bride and groom and experience the pleasure of sitting in a floral sedan chair.
5. The Drum Tower and Wind and Rain Bridge of the Dong minority are the largest architectural structures in the China Folk Culture Villages.
6. Dai's dance performed in the Dai Village every day
7. Young people of the Naxi ethnic group



Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot

Located by Shenzhen Bay, Splendid China occupies an area of 30 hectares exhibiting miniature replicas of scenic spots falling into three categories: ancient architectural structures, landscapes and folk dwellings, and customs. The largest of its kind in the world it has the richest variety of true to life scenic spots in China, it is the epitome of China's long history, fascinating culture, enchanting scenery and numerous historical sites. Here one can see the Great Wall and the terracotta warriors and horses from Qin Shihuang's Mausoleum, which are deemed to be two of the eight wonders of the world. Other world-ranking attractions include the oldest stone bridge, the Zhaozhou Bridge; the oldest astronomical observatory, the Ancient Star Observatory; the oldest wooden pagoda, the Yingxian Wooden Pagoda; the largest palace, the Imperial Palace; the biggest Buddha statue, the Leshan Giant Buddha; the longest grotto, Dunghuang's Mogao Grottoes; the building located at the highest altitude, the Potala Palace; the most wonderful karst landform, the Stone forest and the most fascinating mountain, Mount Huangshan. Also assembled here are many well-known sights such as the Huangguoshu Falls, Confucius Temple, Taishan Mountain, the Three Gorges of the Yangtse River and scenery along the Lijiang River, the West Lake of Hangzhou, the gardens in Suzhou, etc. Besides this, there are also scenes of the emperor praying for good harvests, the wedding of the Qing emperor Guangxu and a memorial ceremony at Confucius Temple as well as folk wedding and funeral customs.

Visitors can visit the whole of China within one day and at the same time gain an intimate understanding of China's 5,000-year-old civilization.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie

China Folk Culture Villages

4

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China Folk Culture Villages boasts 24 life-size villages and houses, built within an area of 18 hectares. They represent the typical architectural styles of buildings in Beijing, Yunnan, Guizhou, Sichuan, Tibet, Hunan, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia. Although living side by side in the villages, each of China's different nationalities displays its own customs and life style: for example the Uygurs dancing accompanied by dongbula guitar, the Mongols performance of wrestling, the Yis exhibiting their custom of Snatching the Bride, the Dai celebrating their Water Splashing Festival, the Dong priest climbing the sword ladder....

Here visitors can taste local ethnic delicacies and watch demonstrations of handicrafts being made.

In the evening, the climax of their tour is the China Folk Culture Carnival Parade. Then, at 9:00 p.m. one can see the "Thousand-Hand and Thousand-Eye Guanyin (Goddess of Mercy) make her presence" as laser beams radiate from her palms and forehead, and then the laser Folk Music Fountain begins. The colourful array of culture and arts of China's 56 nationalities fascinate visitors making them linger in the villages.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie

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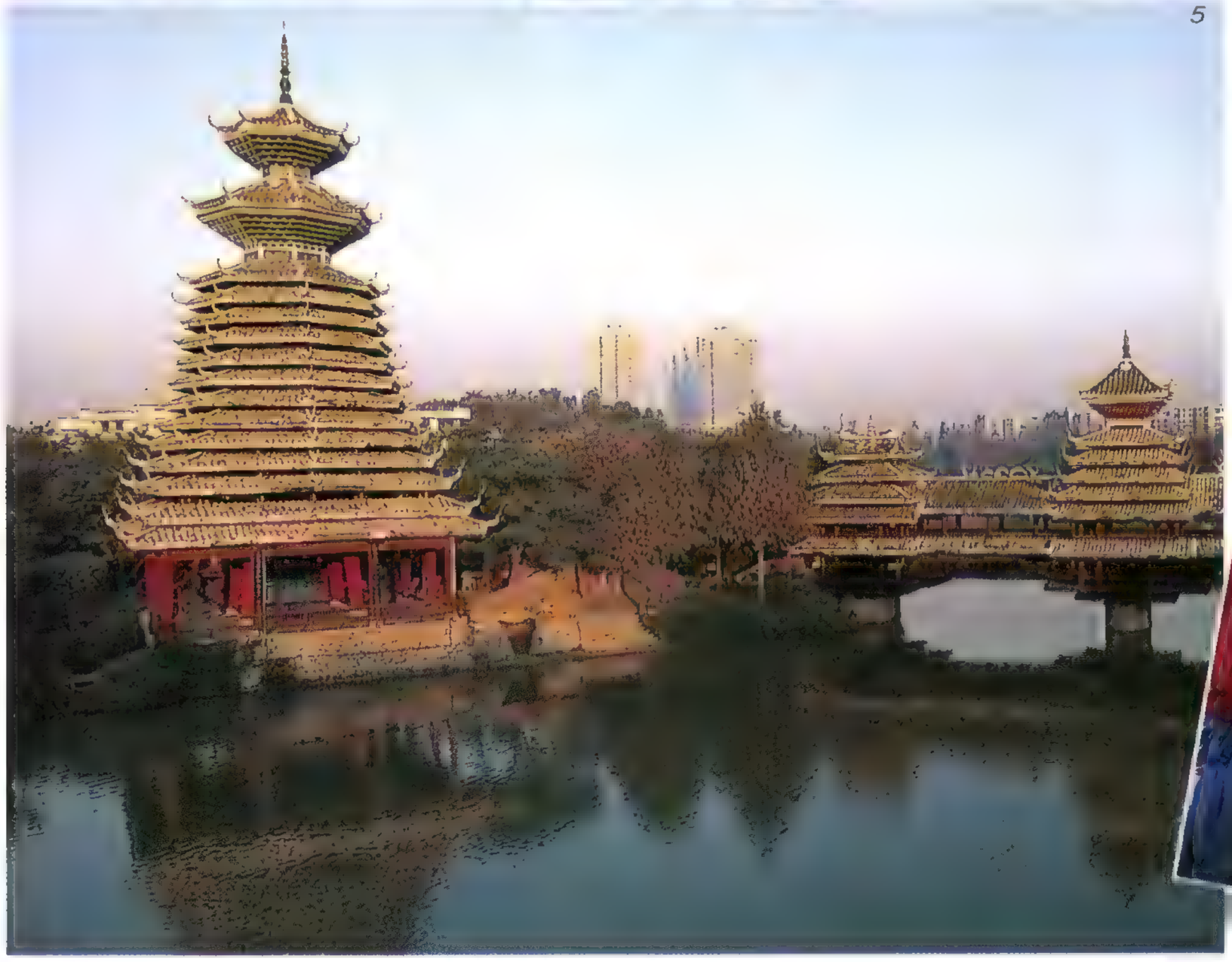

Carnival Night

The evening entertainment at Window of the World begins with a "Carnival Night" parade and a crescendo of music punctuated with drums. First come actors masquerading as ghosts and beasts, next the floats, colourfully bedecked in the traditional theme of various countries. On the Stage of the World Square, Chinese and Russian dancers present a variety show of folk songs and dances. The dancers' graceful postures and movements, together with the rhythms and witty plots of the choreography – all combine to keep the crowd enthralled for hours.

Translated by Ling Yuan

Photos by Xie Guanghui • Text by Hua Guang

1. Pavilions and bridges cast in a myriad of warm glowing lights
2. African style mask dance
3. A float decorated in Russian style
4. A Russian folk dance
5. Stage performance on Christmas Eve
6. Carnival night at the foot of the Eiffel Tower

Euro-American Folklore at

Shenzhen Highlights
TOURIST HIGHLIGHTS — SHENZHEN BAY HOLIDAY RESORT

Christmas and New Year's Eve

SPRING FESTIVAL TOURIST HIGHLIGHTS — SHENZHEN BAY HOLIDAY RESORT

1

2

1. Christmas Eve on Europe-Style Street
2. On Christmas Eve heavy "snow" fell on Europe-Style Street
3. May this picture bring you good luck in the new year.
4. Cake of unusual size. A Christmas gift to members of a China Travel Service group
5. The World Square graced with decorative lights on Christmas Eve
6. A wedding of 16 couples in the Great Church on Europe-Style Street

3

4

Last year Window of the World celebrated Christmas and New Year's Eve. Each evening with the buildings surrounding the World Square, the Eiffel Tower and other structures on Europe-Style Street glowed with strings of coloured lights. Even the street itself was covered with a thick blanket of "snow", with "snowflakes" drifting from the top-floor windows of buildings onto the heads of people engrossed in their merry-making.

A team of Santa Clauses roamed the streets aboard horse-drawn carriages, stopping now and then to pose for pictures with passers-by. Fireworks boomed at midnight, gracing the otherwise dark sky with a kaleidoscope of colours and shapes. In the square and on the observation decks of the Eiffel Tower, people drank in the beauty of the spectacular night scene.

Translated by Ling Yuan
Photos by Guang Hui & Bao Xiu
Text by Hua Guang

5

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Window of the World

Adjacent to the China Folk Culture Villages, Window of the World is another miniature scenic spot by the Shenzhen Bay covering an area of 48 hectares. Here replicas of world-renowned scenic spots have been built to scale or to their full size.

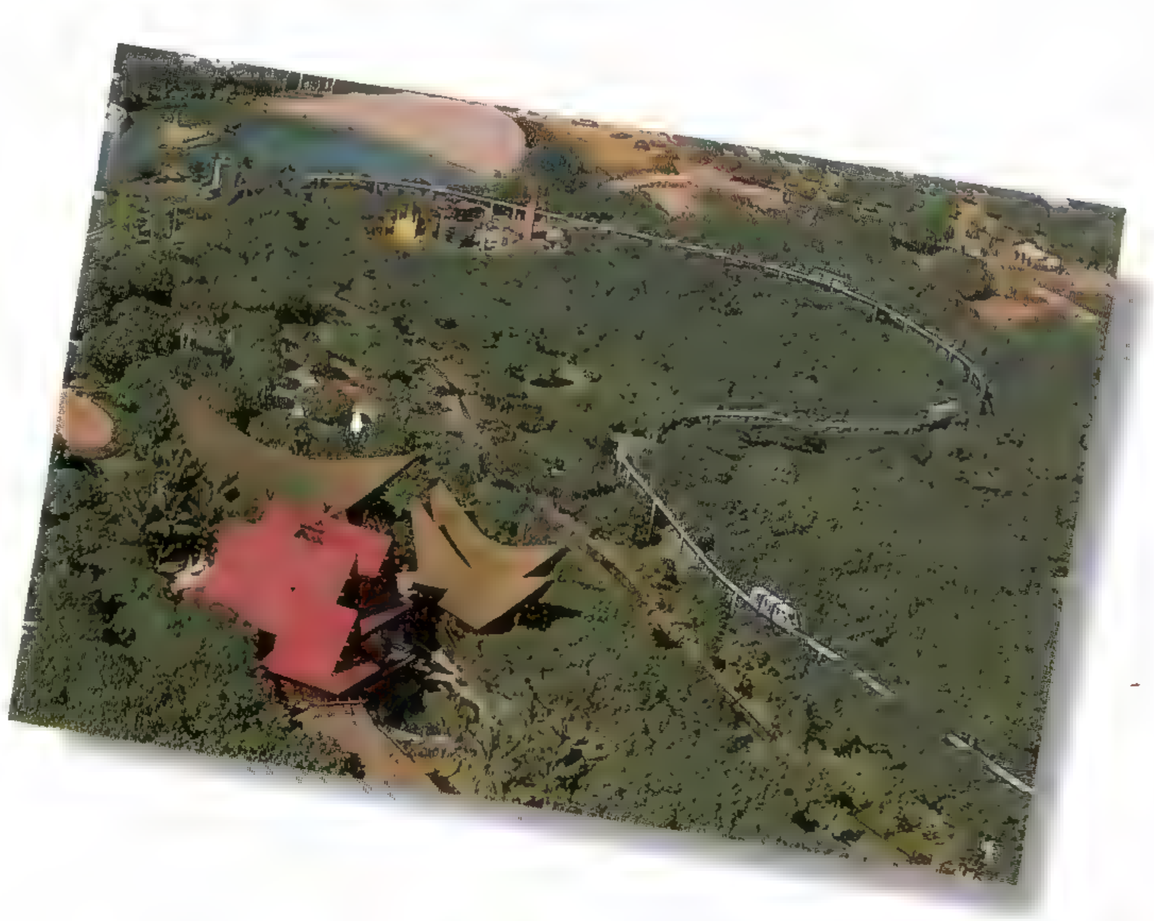
The first to meet one's eyes at the entrance is the Eiffel Tower. One third the size, this replica stands 108 metres high yet is as magnificent as its original. From atop the tower one has a panoramic view of the China Folk Culture Villages and Splendid China in the east, and a bird's-eye view of world-famous sites such as the Angkor Wat of Cambodia, Turkey's Church of St. Sophia, Greece's Acropolis of Athens, Egypt's Pyramids of Giza and "Sphinx" Stone Sculpture, the Sydney Opera House of Australia, Buckingham Palace of Britain, Italy's Leaning Tower of Pisa, Spain's Court of Lions in Alhambra Palace, Holland's Windmills, Denmark's Mermaid of Copenhagen, the Kremlin of Russia, the White House of U.S.A., the Niagara Falls.... The centre is divided into five scenic areas: Asia, Oceanica, Europe, Africa and America. It seems as if the whole world is under one's very nose.

Around the World Square near the entrance there are 108 stone pillars of different styles, and facing the main gate stand seven well-known statues. In the evening the square, which can hold 10,000 spectators, is illuminated by colourful lights.

The Carnival Night begins with an exotic art parade composed of colourful floats which must not be missed. After the parade circuling around the square intoxicating song and dance performances by Chinese and Russian artists take place.

The combination of still and moving scenes, performances and audience participation makes a visit to Window of the World a true pleasure, enabling visitors "to tour the world" within one day.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie



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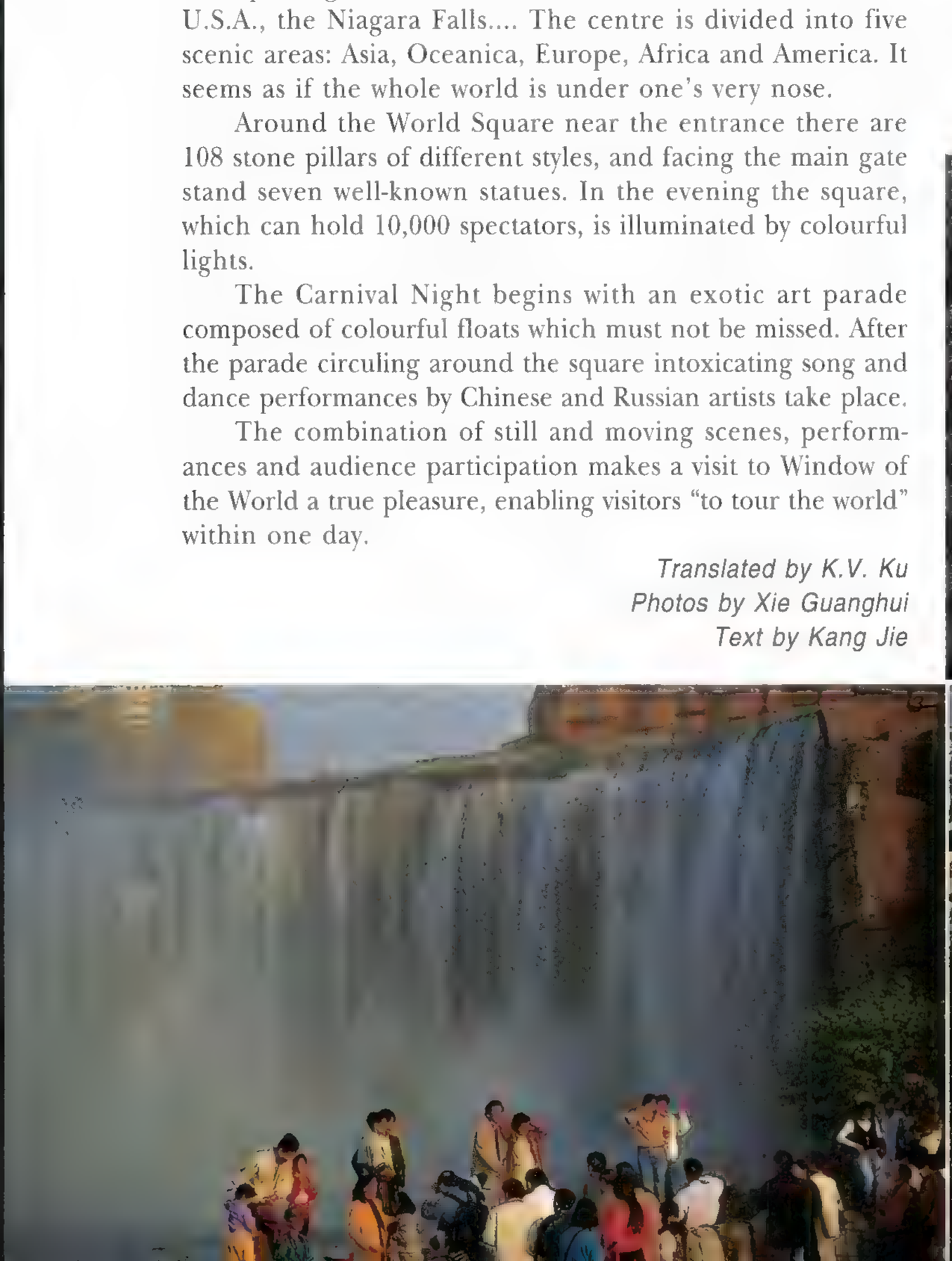
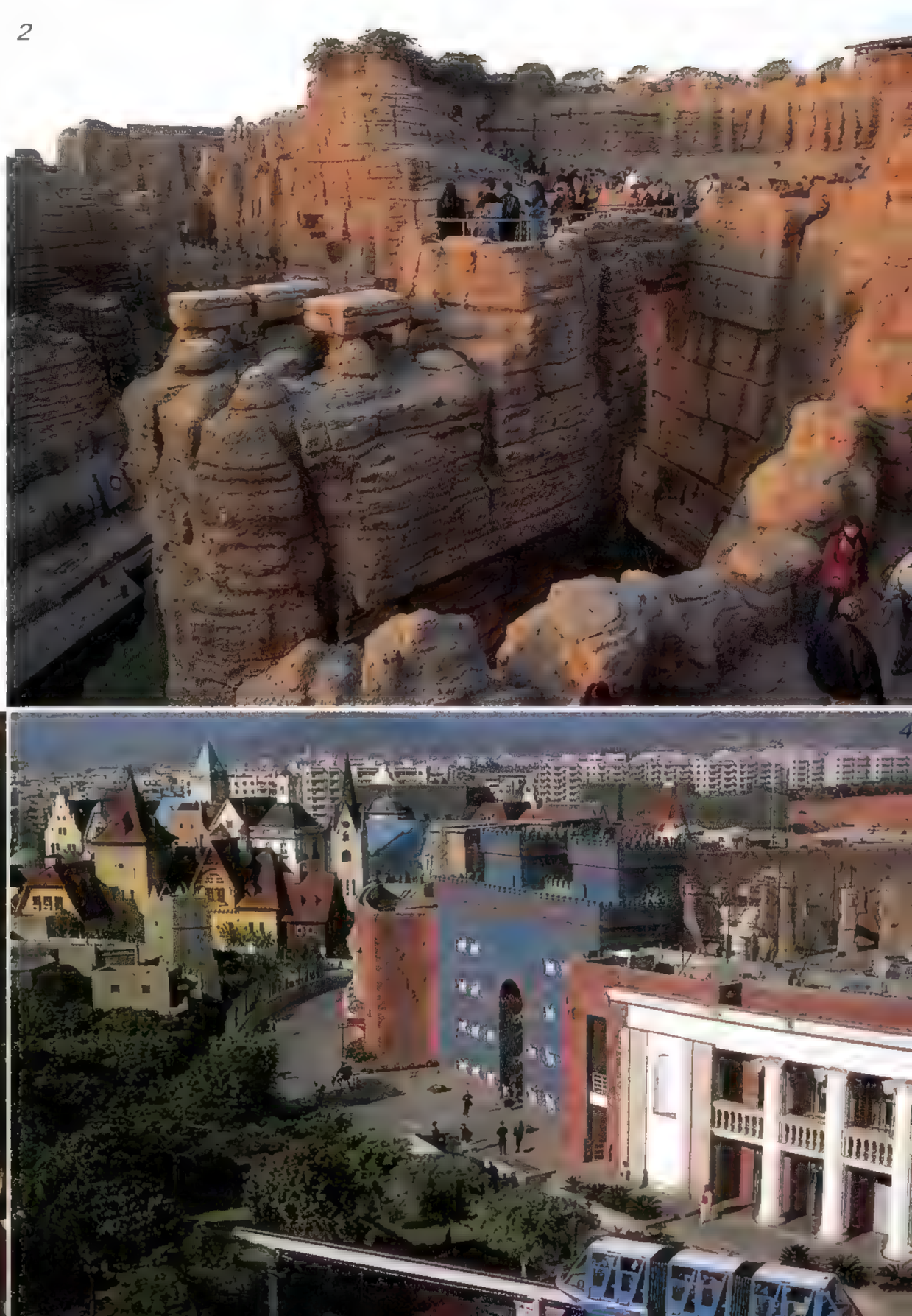




1. *Elevated trains coasting through the litchi grove*
2. *The Grand Canyon, U.S.A.*
3. *The Niagara Falls*
4. *Western-Style Street*
5. *A caravan belonging to the Russian Circus*
6. *A bird's-eye view of Hong Kong's New Territories from atop the Eiffel Tower*
7. *The Eiffel Tower, France*
8. *The Colosseum, Italy*

Holiday Lodgings

After enjoying the evening performances at either China Folk Culture Villages or Window of the World, visitors can choose to relax for one or two nights at nearby hotels such as Shenzhen Bay Hotel, Haijing Hotel and Yi Yuan Hotel.

Shenzhen Bay Hotel is a four-star hotel of international standard providing comfortable, convenient facilities, good food, shopping and a range of other services ideal for relaxation or business.

Those who enjoy Western-style food and bars can choose from the Napoleon Grill Room, Captain's Bar or European Cafe. I am not used to Western-style food and drink, except for coffee, so I had always enjoyed the Chinese cuisine at Sea View House Chinese Restaurant during my stay.

During listless afternoons, I usually went to the Health Centre or the Evergreen Swimming Pool to swim or sunbathe. Since I am a novice in the fields of singing and playing tennis, I had to give up on the well-equipped karaoke rooms and tennis courts, instead I just acted as a spectator at the Disco Valentine Night Club and had a wonderful time on my last night in the hotel.

Haijing Hotel also provides satisfactory accommodation. Visitors can enjoy various facilities and considerate service, especially noteworthy is the seaview from the rooms. The sunlit waters rippling in the Shenzhen Bay creates a peaceful and carefree atmosphere.

Yi Yuan Hotel, a subsidiary building of the Hua Xia Art Centre with a surrounding greenbelt is another choice. It has become an ideal venue for jogging and doing morning exercises. The large ballroom at the Hua Xia Art Centre attracts ballroom dancers from Hong Kong who spend many weekends here.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie

1.The health centre in Shenzhen Bay Hotel
2. A deluxe suite with advanced equipment in Shenzhen Bay Hotel
3. With fresh air Shenzhen Bay is an ideal venue for morning exercise.
4. Electronic Amusement City at Window of the World is a magnet to many visitors.
5. Young visitors from Hong Kong
6. The billiard room of Shenzhen Bay Hotel
7. A view of Shenzhen Bay from Shenzhen Bay Hotel
8. Shenzhen Bay Night Club offers good night entertainment.
9. The lobby of Shenzhen Bay Hotel

A Mecca for Gourmets

The visitor to Shenzhen Bay cannot afford to skip lunch because there are so many restaurants and different cuisines to choose from. It all depends on one's willingness to open the purse strings.

You needn't eat only at a scenic area, there are plenty of restaurants elsewhere. Suzhou Street, for example, situated away from Window of the World, is lined on both sides with restaurants serving a wide variety of foods, ranging from Suzhou refreshments, Sichuan hot dishes, Yunnan rice noodles, Lanzhou hand-stretched noodles, and mutton soup *a la Xi'an* with crumbs of pancake soaked in it.

In the China Folk Culture Villages, beneath overhead canopies the restaurants mainly serve cold dishes and other snacks of Xi'an, Yunnan, northern China, and Sichuan and other areas south of the Yangtse River.

If fast food does not satisfy you, go to Tianyige, a chain of Chinese restaurants specializing in various cooking styles. One is decorated as a cave dwelling in Yan'an, Shaanxi Province. Despite the rural surroundings, the dishes are flawlessly prepared.

For foreign delicacies, you will not be disappointed at Window of the World. A Western-style fast food joint is situated at the foot of the Eiffel Tower and another at Europe-Style Street serves fried chicken legs, potato chips and borsch. Wall paintings and dim lights never fail to create a romantic atmosphere in the diner.

Dim lights are by no means the only medium of a romantic setting. The open-air teahouse in front of the Great Church in Europe-Style Street smacks of continental Europe. Many visitors stay for an entire afternoon munching pastries and sipping coffee or beer.

Try Le Restaurant de France for a lavish French dinner, the Café Vienna for table *d'hôte* or buffet, La Italian for a variety of spaghetti and macaroni. The Hamburg Restaurant offers hamburgers, the Southeast Asian Waterside Village Restaurant serves dishes made in the styles of Thailand, Indonesia and Myanmar, the Osaka Restaurant specializes in Japanese fare, the Korean Restaurant welcomes those crazy for barbecue *a la Korea* and Wenhuage Restaurant offers Cantonese food.

As a member of the China Travel Service tourist group I was brought to the Nasca Restaurant. Although the restaurant is Mexican in style, its menu features both Western and Chinese dishes, and we were treated to an authentic multi-course Chinese dinner.

Translated by Ling Yuan
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Yu Wei

A Paradise for Shoppers

Wherever people go, they tend to buy souvenirs either for themselves or for friends. Shenzhen Bay is a paradise for shoppers and souvenir hunters alike. Mingling within a cluster of restaurants on Suzhou Street at Splendid China Miniature Scenic Spot are a number of gift shops, where Yixing-style purple sand pottery is a favourite purchase.

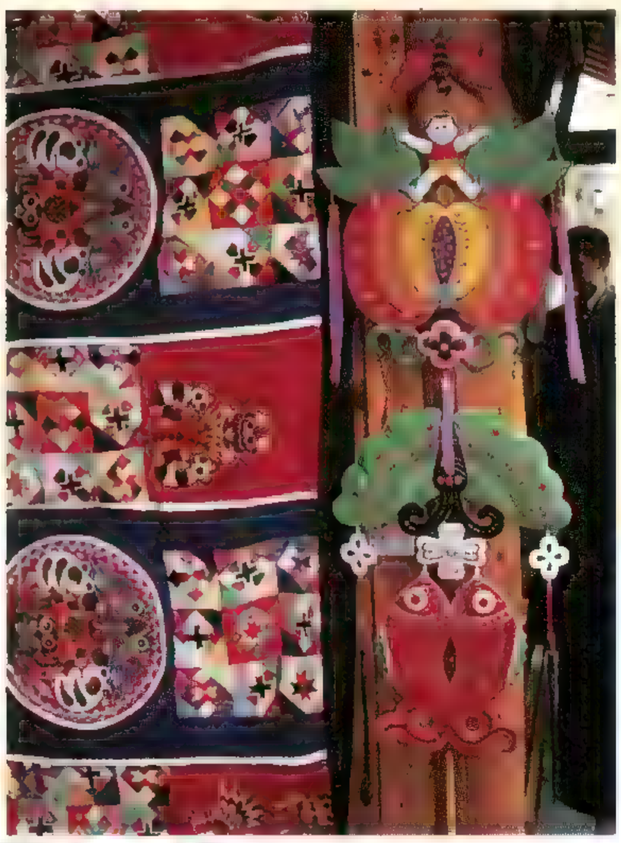
Huizhou Street in the China Folk Culture Villages is full of shops offering a rich variety of handicrafts including Beijing clay figurines, papercuts, poker works, lanterns, Wuxi clay figures and south China embroideries. The dough-sculptors and sugar-figurine modellers are always mobbed by eager onlookers as their deft fingers spin off one life-like image after another.

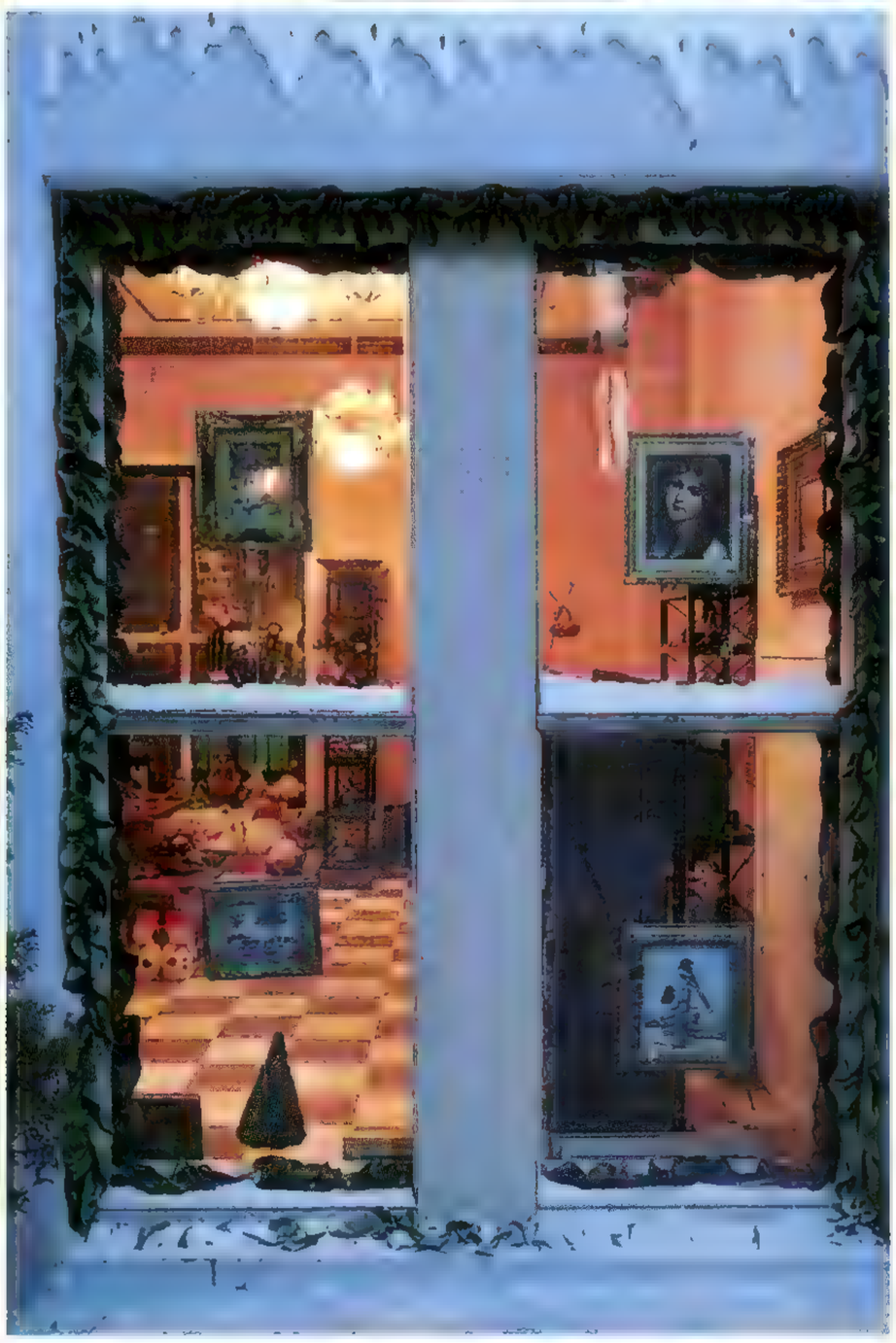
Quite a few imported commodities are on sale at Europe-Style Street in Window of the World. In shop window displays are oil paintings, photographs and outlandish handicrafts. Strolling along the street, one has the feeling that one has set foot in Europe. Even the shop names sound authentically foreign: Europa, International, Cape of Good Hope, Golden Pyramid, Indiania, Front Square Christmas House, Holland Windmill Cabin, Southeast Asian Waterside Village Store and so on.

If pithy witticism is a hallmark of European string puppets, then African wood-carvings are captivating with their mystic imagery. The designers of Window of the World have obviously made a wise decision in siting European puppets and African wood-carvings on a par as they are both favourites with customers.

Those seeking romance can sit for a street painter who ostentatiously displays his skill on Europe-Style Street with ready-made portraits of movie stars. The scene is evocative of Paris. A portrait obtained in this fashion is definitely an excellent keepsake.

Translated by Ling Yuan
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Text by Kang Jie





Travel Tips for Shenzhen Bay

Advantages of China Travel Service (CTS) Package Tour

1. Luxury coach from Hong Kong changing to another coach to be arranged by the travel service concerned in Shenzhen.
2. A professional tour guide to accompany you to most of the scenic spots.
3. CTS offers a free double admission ticket to Window of the World and China Folk Culture Villages, allowing you to admire the scenic spots by day and enjoy song and dance performances by night.
4. Reserved seats for the evening performances
5. A free gift courtesy of CTS
6. Special offers available on the price of admission tickets, hotels and transport.
   Economical spending with first class enjoyment

Individual Tour

1. CTS luxury coaches available directly from Hong Kong to Shenzhen Bay Hotel, Window of the World, Splendid China and China Folk Culture Villages.

   Coach Service
   Hong Kong-Shenzhen Bay
   08:00 China Travel Service, Wan Chai (nearby Southorn Playground)
   08:25 Hong Kong Coliseum (near Kowloon Station)
   08:35 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (near Romantic Hotel)

   Shenzhen Bay-Hong Kong
   17:00 Window of the World, west entrance(near the Pyramid)
   17:10 Shenzhen Bay Hotel, main entrance
   17:15 Splendid China, main entrance

   Hong Kong stops: Kowloon Tong MTR Station, Hong Kong Coliseum

   Hong Kong Booking Offices: At all branches of CTS
   Shenzhen Bay Booking Offices: Hong Kong-Macau Booking Counter at Window of the World, Shenzhen Bay Hotel, Bus Ticket Counter at Splendid China

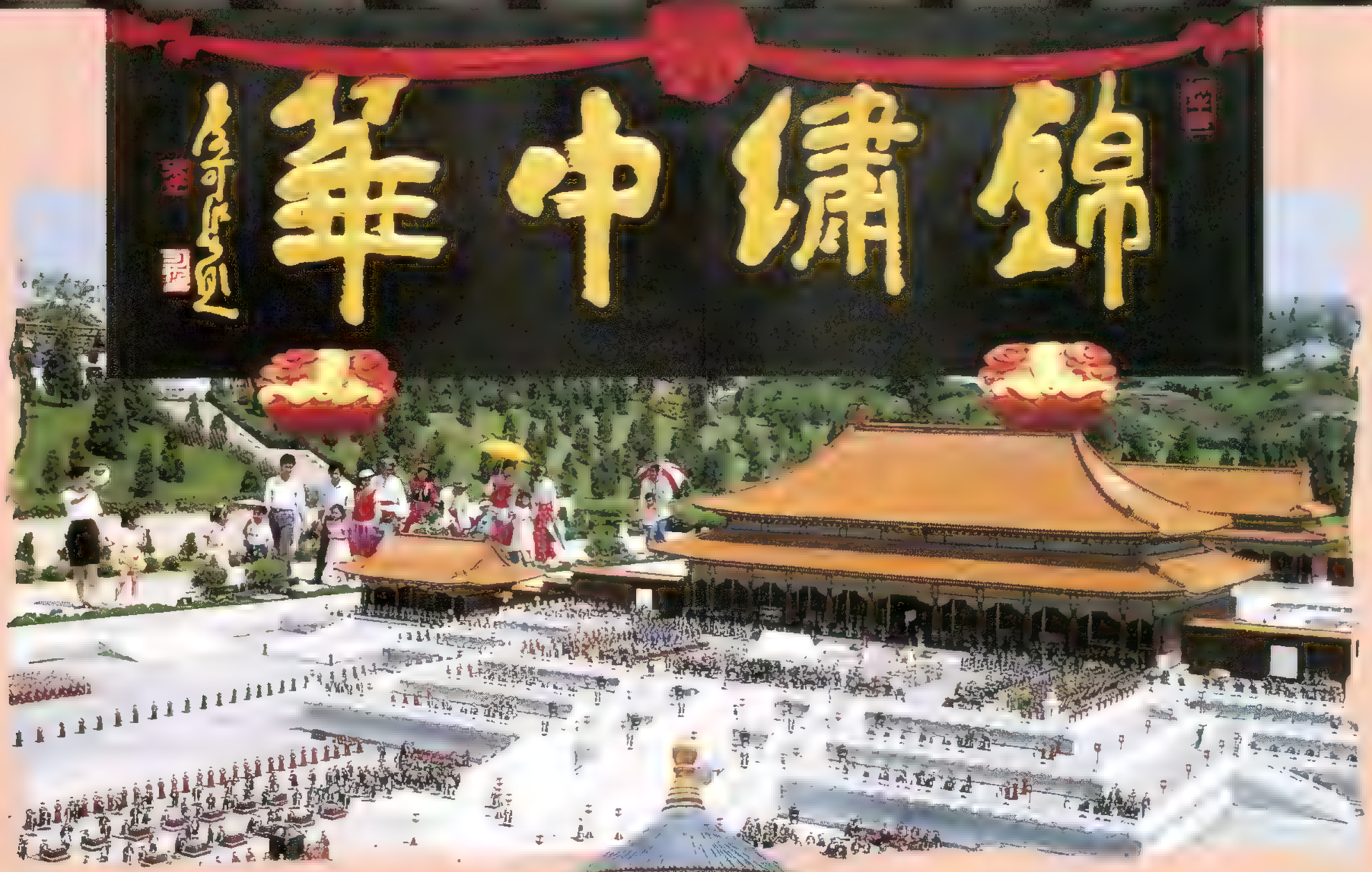
2. Rooms in the Dai Village Bamboo Blockhouse are available for a rest during the day on an hourly basis. Each room is charged at RMB¥100 per hour.
3. Elevated train, golf car (RMB¥10 per person), horse cart (RMB¥30) and old-fashioned car (RMB¥20) are available inside Window of the World. Eiffel Tower climb is RMB¥20. On weekends and public holidays, an extra RMB¥5 will be charged for transport and RMB¥10 for the tower.
4. Thai-style massage is available on an hourly basis inside Window of the world.

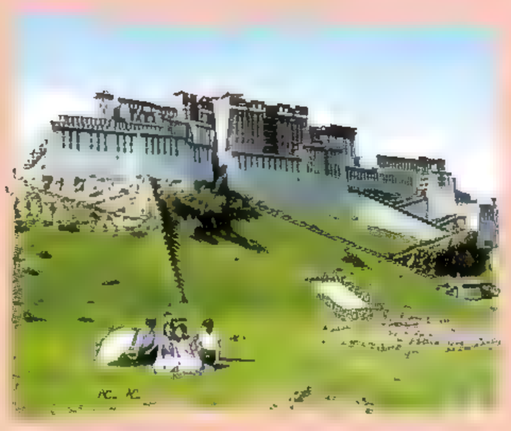
A GLIMPSE AT THE THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD CIVILIZATIONS OF CHINA

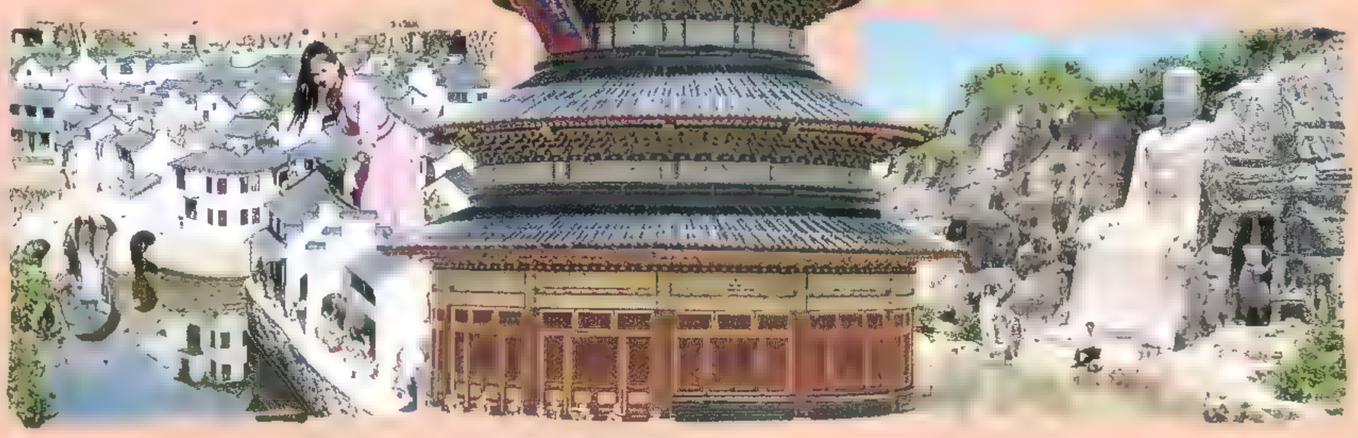
TRAVEL OVER THE MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAINS AND RIVERS THROUGHOUT CHINA IN A SINGLE DAY

THE WORLD'S LARGEST MINIATURE SCENERY PARK

"SPLENDID CHINA" SHENZHEN CHINA







China Travel Service (Hong Kong) Ltd.
General Agents for the business of "Splendid China" in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan as well as Overseas

Shenzhen Splendid China Development Co. Ltd.

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Fax:(1-407)396-6665

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Tel: (61-2)2112633 (61-2)2817415
Fax: (61-2)2813595 Tlx: 73301 CTSSYD AA

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Singapore 0105
Tel: (65)532-9988 Fax: (65)535-4912 538-6068

China Travel Service (Canada) Inc.
556 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5Z 1E9
Tel: (1-604)872-8787 Fax: (1-604)873-2823 Tlx: 04-54219

China Travel Service (Canada) Inc. (Toronto Office)
438 University Avenue, Suite 306, BOX 28 Toronto, Ont., Canada M5G 2K8
Tel: (1-416)979-8993 Fax: (1-416)979-8220

China Travel Service (France) S.A.R.L.
32, Rue Vignon, 75009 Paris, France
Tel: (33-1)44515566 Fax:(33-1)44515560

China Travel Service (Japan) Co., Ltd.
Nihombashi-Settsu Bldg. 2-2-4, Nihombashi, Chuo-ku,
Tokyo, Japan
Tel: (81-3)3273-5512 Fax: (81-3)3273-2667
Tlx: 242-3968 CTSJPN J

P.T. Cempaka Travelindo Service
JL. Hayam Wuruk No.97, Jakarta-Barat, Indonesia
Tel: (62-21)6294452 (62-21)6007455 Fax: (62-21)6294836

China Travel & Trading (Deutschland) GmbH
Dusseldorfer Strasse 14, 6000 Frankfurt/M.1, Germany
Tel: (49-69)250515 (49-69)250516 Fax: (49-69)232324

China Travel System (M) Sdn Bhd.
Ground Floor, No.112-114 Jalan Pudu,
55100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: (60-3)201-8888 Fax: (60-3)201-3268

"Yan Can Cook" in Xi'an

We landed at Xi'an Airport in the evening. A car took us to the city enclosed by a rectangular wall of grey bricks. Because of its long historical existence, being once the capital site of ancient dynasties, Xi'an has become famous for being one of the four oldest capitals in the world, together with Athens, Cairo and Rome.

Early the following morning, we climbed to the top of the city wall at the Gate of Eternal Joy. The rectangular city wall of Xi'an was built with perfectly straight lines, longer in the east-west direction than in the north-south. The city wall once served the purpose of turning the city into a military fortress and is one of the best preserved structures in China, being larger and better preserved than any other city castle in the world.

FILMING THE TERRA-COTTA WARRIORS AND HORSES

In the afternoon, we drove to the Museum of the Terracotta Warriors and Horses of the First Emperor of the Qin Dynasty located 1.5 kilometres to the east of First Emperor's Mausoleum. The warriors and horses in Pit No.1 are arranged in a neat rectangular military formation facing east. The camera crew skillfully took a selection of shots. Unfortunately, because the terracotta warriors and horses are special cultural relics under State protection, Mr. Martin Yan could not go into the pit to be photographed with them. The desired shot had to be reconstructed at Wenbaozhai Studio.

1. Martin Yan disguises himself as a Qin-dynasty terracotta warrior in the Wenbaozhai Studio reconstruction of the Qin Terracotta Exhibition Hall.
2. One can enjoy Tang-dynasty music over a cup of wine at the Tang Music Palace.

Wenbaozhai Studio on Dayanta Road outside the Peace Gate deals in the works of famous calligraphers and painters, paraphernalia of the study, metal and stone seals, replicas of terracotta warriors and horses, ornamental roof tiles of the Qin (221-207 B.C.) and Han (206 B.C.-A.D.220) dynasties, Buddhist statues of the Sui Dynasty (581-618), rubbings of inscribed stone tablets and other artifacts. In the display room upstairs was a group of terracotta warriors which looked exactly like those in the museum. The studio manager was very friendly and helpful. He untied the guard-rope and allowed us to shoot from every angle. James, the Australian director, positioned Yan among the closely arranged life-size warriors while he himself walked back and forth and explained how the shots were to be taken. As he did so, he carelessly knocked off an arm of one terracotta warrior. Turning pale, he stood at the spot, raised his arms and asked, "How much does a warrior cost? I'm finished!" The studio manager immediately came over and told a young assistant to take away the broken warrior and replace it with another one. He tried to calm the director down and said that it was all right and that he did not have to pay for it if he could do a good publicity job in the TV production. Repeatedly, James said, "O.K., O.K." When we left, the manager saw us off at the studio door and asked us to send him a video cassette of the shots.

SNACK MARKET AT NIGHT

After photographing the historical sites of Xi'an, the Yan Can Cook crew began to deal with its main theme – the delicacies of Xi'an. In the evening, we brought ourselves to the snack street outside Xi'an's South Gate. The street was several hundred metres long and was lined with as many as 100 food stalls, providing more than 50 varieties of snacks and several dozen varieties of snacks of central, northern and southern Shaanxi flavour. We first tasted a gruel made with the black rice of Chenggu. According to the stall keeper, the black rice produced in Chenggu used to be a tribute delivered to the emperor. The gruel had to be cooked over a gentle fire for about four hours to make it fragrant and refreshing in the mouth. We next ordered a dish of fried puffy cakes which looked like white lotus flowers which were developed from a kind of cake of the Tang Dynasty known as "Melting in the Wind". You have to be very patient while eating this cake and nibble at it. If you swallow too quickly, the extremely hot sugary filling may burn your throat or a careless bite may spill the liquid filling onto your hands or clothes and spoil the occasion. We also tasted the white, delicate pancakes of Lantian, the hot and sour steamed rice-noodles of Qinzhen and the tasty Moyu jelly, spending altogether only some 10 yuan.

Pancake in mutton broth is a specialty of Xi'an. As it is locally highly popular, it is invariably served at the snack counters. The half-cooked pancake is to be broken by the customer himself into small pieces and placed in a big bowl. Some customers prefer to tear the pancake into pieces as small as the size of a bean. A boiling hot mutton broth is then poured over the pieces. You stir the broth as you eat the pieces of pancake before they are fully soaked and become soft. Pancake in mutton broth is the best-known specialty of Xi'an. You may regret it if you have only seen the terracotta warriors and horses and have not tasted Xi'an's pancake in mutton broth.

Most of the snacks served in Xi'an are made with flour and the method used for its preparation is comparatively simple. Compared with those of Beijing, they do not have the palatial style and instead cater to the taste of the common people, which makes me like them better.

XI'AN'S POPULAR DUMPLING BANQUET

Dumplings are a favourite of northerners in China. But people in Xi'an have perfected the art of dumplings to such an extent that they are served as a banquet. At a dumpling banquet the dumplings are

much smaller than those made at home, and most of them are steamed instead of being boiled. In addition to the traditional fillings of chopped pork, beef or mutton, the dumplings are also filled with the meat of fowl, fish, shrimps, mountain delicacies or fruit. The wrapping is extremely thin. Dumplings with each variety of filling are served on the table in the rack steamer in which they have been cooked, so that there is a dumpling for each person at the table. As the dumpling is very small, it is only enough for one mouthful. Fortunately, several dozen steamer racks are served at each banquet, so it is possible to taste each variety of filling. Unfortunately, as our schedule was tight, we did not have a chance to taste the dumpling banquet of Xi'an.

Translated by Tang Bowen
Photos & Article by Xie Guanghui

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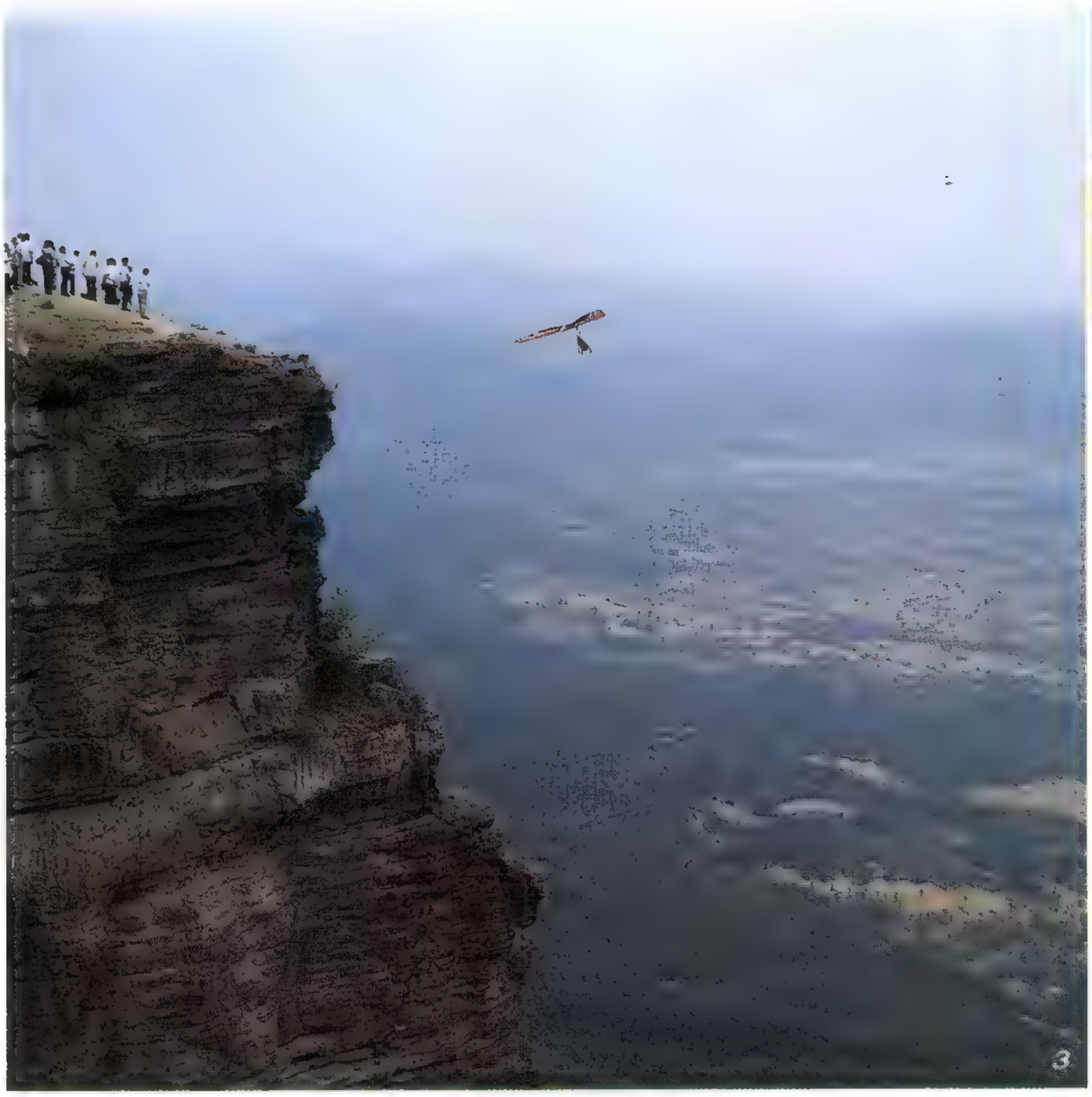
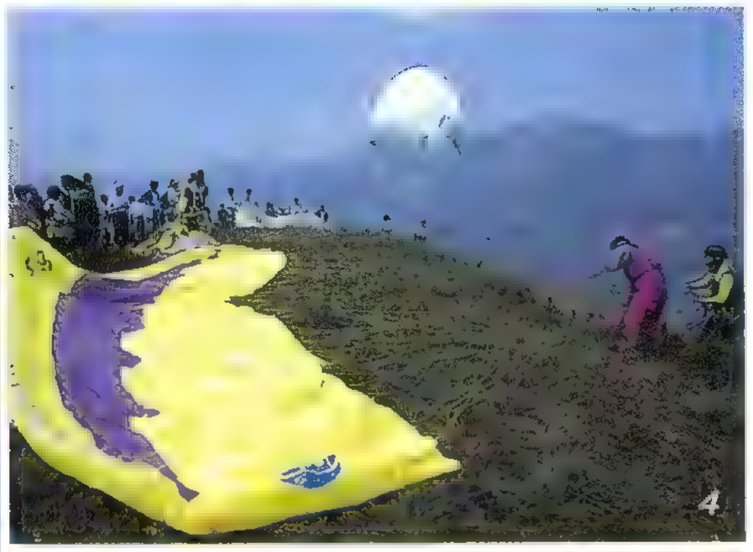
1. Yan's face turns red wearing the hot pepper wreath around his neck.
2. Snack stalls are doing brisk business at night in Xi'an.
3. Yan acts as a food stall vender.
4. Relaxing with the old men and their birds outside the walled city

Flying from the top of
Linlü Mountain in Henan
Linzhou's International Parachute Gliding Tournament

The main take-off site of the Linzhou International Parachute Gliding Base is located at Ma'annao on top of the northern section of Linlü Mountain, 20 kilometres northwest of Linzhou, Henan Province. Located 1,300 metres above sea level, the mountaintop is flat and its sheer cliff faces a wide, open plain. The area is often blessed with southeastern air currents, notable circular winds in the valley and smooth, steady high-altitude air currents. With beautiful surrounding scenery, good food and accommodation and convenient transport, it has, for many years, been an ideal venue for international hang-gliding and parachute gliding tournaments, and has received praise from many professionals. During the international gliding tournaments, Linzhou becomes an attraction both to spectators and visitors touring the area.

1. Ready to fly, but waiting for an east wind
2. The contestants look like visitors from outer space.
3. Hang-gliding over the Linlü Mountain (by Li Zisheng)
4. At noon, the contestants took off one after another with the rising airflow.





In mid-September last year I hurried to the qualifying games of the '95 World Cup Parachute Gliding Competition held in Linzhou. Driving along the world-famous Red Flag Canal to the north I arrived at the gliding base on top of Linlü Mountain two hours later.

Looking to the east and west I found both sides of the mountain were almost perpendicularly cut. On one side was a boundless flat plain and on the other a big valley with huge rocks. Under my feet lay an expanse of grassland where people could ride horses.

Cars and motorbikes started to arrive at the mountain one after another, and soon the parking area on the mountain ridge was full. Hundreds and thousands of tourists suddenly made the quiet valley very noisy. The local villagers also swarmed here to set up food stalls offering local and unusual delicacies.

The take-off site lay on the eastern slope of the northern peak and was divided into sections by coloured flags and ropes. Stretching before the site was a 100-metre-long slope and further down was a sheer cliff. Contestants from various countries and regions, wearing colourful gliding clothes, were busy making preparations for take-off. There were a good number of women contestants: the Japanese girls looked too delicate to fly into the sky; a French female contestant had come all the way from Europe to take part.

At noon, the sun shone overhead and the mountain winds were gathering. It was time to start the contest. Carrying their parachutes, the contestants arrived at the site. They opened their parachutes, and one after another, ran for a few yards down the slope, the air currents rising up from beneath the cliff blew open the parachutes and lifted them straight up into the sky. The most splendid take-off was by a tall, strong male Russian. He ran for a few steps and took off beautifully. With a few pulls of his parachute rope, he flew abruptly into the sky and then glided above the site, winning cheers from the crowd below. An hour later, all the contestants were up and gliding, trying to catch the airflows. Sometimes they came very close to the cliff face and some flew over the peak. Heading off towards the south they were soon out of sight disappearing into the clouds.

Translated by M.Q.

Photos & Article by Shan Xiaogang

Information for Participants and Visitors to the Linzhou International Parachute Gliding Tournament

Autumn is the best season for gliding on Linlü Mountain, Linzhou. At the international gliding base three sites offering different topography are available for gliding, parachuting or hang-gliding either for practice or competition. International competitions are normally held in mid-September, so those wishing to participate should contact the China Aviation Sports Association two to three months in advance. Tourists can contact the Anyang City Tourist Bureau or Linzhou City Tourist Bureau who will arrange your food, accommodation, transportation and sight-seeing programmes. Individual or group gliding packages can be arranged by directly contacting the Linzhou Tourist Bureau who will make appropriate arrangements for you for a fee.

Linzhou City is a new county-level city in Henan Province, with clean, wide streets, good facilities offering food, accommodation and telecommunications. Lodging is available at the three-star Linzhou Guesthouse or the Linlü Mountain Guesthouse attached to the city's tourist bureau, both offer good facilities and are located downtown. You may fly to Beijing and take a train to Anyang, then to Linzhou. It is only about one hour by bus from Anyang to Linzhou; or you may fly to Zhengzhou and then use the regular bus service to Linzhou taking three to four hours.

FOR THE SHOPPING FAN

Guangzhou Book Centre, Tianhe

China's Largest "Book City"

简　介

欢迎光临广州购书中心！

这里是羊城购书的一角，您可能感受到广州人对科学文化知识的渴求与追求！这里的每一块砖石都凝结着一份期盼，每一届羊城书市在广州揭幕，一时间人潮涌动，感觉空前，历十余日而不衰，书市的浪潮热浪牵动着省市领导的心，城市园林都搭建着"建设购书中心，羊城日日书市"，而今，市政府雷厉风行，迅速把领导的决心和市民的心愿化为行动，建设者们按照"设计一流，施工一流，力争成为广州标志点"的标准日夜奋战，今天，一座象征着省市领导心和市民的丰碑——广州购书中心，终于从市区黄金地段拔地而起，作为目前国内最大的现代化书城和海内外图书的重要集散地，它将充分展现国际化大都市色彩纷呈的文化景观，向世界昭示现代广州人奋发求知的精神风貌，成为培育社会主义"四有"新人的摇篮，成为播种两个文明的绿洲。

亲爱的读者，当您步入大厅，23000平方米的图书销场所，为您提供了一个全新、舒适的购书环境，使您仿如置身于广阔无垠的书海；当您在千万种图书间凝眸，仿如进入恣笼茂密的书林，令您眼花瞭乱，留连忘返；当您坐上了自动电梯、垂直客梯，就好像一步一步登上了文明金字塔的顶端，新图书阅览厅、报告厅、订货厅常年向您开放；中央空调、自动电梯、垂直客梯和工作人员的良好职业素质将让您领略一流的服务，这里，"羊城日日书市"使您梦想成真。

愿缕缕书香给您一份惊喜，一份满足，一份享受……

广州购书中心

一九九四年十一月二十三日

Not far from Guangzhou's Tianhe Railway Station (East Station), a new "supermarket" has opened its doors, named Guangzhou Book Centre. The spacious seven-storey building with a total area of 18,500 square metres is known as the largest "Book City" in China.

Publications from almost all the press and publishing houses in mainland China can be found here. On sale are books relating to every field: astronomy, geography, history, politics, novels, poetry and prose by famous Chinese and foreign writers, and biographies of renowned contemporary Chinese and foreign figures. There are special shelves containing publications on health care for the aged, relaxation, cosmetics and computing. The most deluxe publications are to be found on ancient art and children's books. On the higher floors are the retail bookstores run by publishing houses from other provinces and regions. The wholesale department is located on the fourth floor, and there is a mailing service counter on the left-hand side of the lobby.

At 9 o'clock every morning while there are still very few customers in other stores, the book centre is already as crowded as a marketplace, especially on weekends. Customers include people from other parts of the country and visitors from Hong Kong and Macau. For Hong Kong bookworms it is a shoppers' paradise as one can find a great variety of books here and the prices are much lower than in Hong Kong. For example, a hardback set of *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms* costs at least HK$150 in Hong Kong, but here it costs only 50 yuan. Besides, transportation is quite convenient between Hong Kong and Guangzhou: a return trip can be made within a day.

Book City's Business Hours

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (daily)

Transport

From Tianhe Railway Station (East Station): Bus No. 43 or 45, air-conditioned bus routes pass the book centre; taxi fare is less than 15 yuan.
From Guangzhou Railway Station: Air-conditioned bus routes pass the book centre; taxi fare is about 50 yuan.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos & Text by Shi Bao Xiu

1. Biographies of both the Communist Party and the Kuomintang leaders can be bought here.
2. A huge book, for advertising purposes, is on display in the centre of the hall on the ground floor.
3. The facade of "Book City"
4. Free facials are given to female customers for the promotion of cosmetic books on the second floor.
5. The bright and spacious lobby

Home of Snow in the North

Winter has not really arrived in northern China until mountains and fields are clad in a blanket of silvery snow, which is also when the true wilderness of the north can only fully be appreciated. The Northeast and the Northwest of China, or the area beyond the Great Wall offer thrilling views of vast expanses of snowscape.

One winter night in Urümqi, the capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, I saw a heavy snowfall. The following morning I stepped out to find the snow was leg-deep. Pulling one leg at a time out of the snow, I experienced an unforgettable trek in the snow. However, snowy days are not necessarily very cold; the coldest time apparently is when the snow melts. Why not seek out some wintertime fun, while snowflakes still swirl in the air and before the snow begins to thaw.

Winter in the north would not be the same without snow.

Translated by K.V. Ku • Text by Jun Feng

MELODY IN THE HOME OF SNOW

Winter has been ushered in by the appearance of snow on the rooftops and on the ground. Only the evergreens stand as lush and as green as ever. Set off by the blue sky the shining bright red palatial lantern has created a melodious scene.

Photo by Tong Weiyuan

A SEASONAL FALL OF SNOW

The overnight snowfall has left its trace on the forks of trees, and snowdrifts are heaped against the doors. The red New Year pictures, red scarf and the smiling face of the girl add a splash of colour.

Photo by Zhong Weichun

GIRLS IN THE NORTH

The game of elastic skipping is a favourite of girls everywhere in China, especially of those in the north. Year in, year out, these girls skip, whiling away time in this joyful way even on the snow-covered ground.

Photo by Su Wei

CHILDHOOD

The river mouth has frozen over. Children spend hours of fun sliding around on their home-made sleighs.

Photo by Su Wei

WELCOMING IN SPRING

The pile of snow signifies the last trace of winter. This young woman is the first to sense the air of spring. Although still very chilly, the sun has stretched out its warm fingers....

Photo by Lu Guang

Crazy About Stone
— Seal Handle Engraving

Today more and more people in Beijing have a hobby of one kind or another. However, those who are crazy about stone are probably few, not to mention those who would be willing to spend nearly 1,000 yuan on a bag of Balin stone and then carry them home from a remote valley in Inner Mongolia back to Beijing!

Seal handle engraving is a unique form of sculpture used in traditional Chinese seals and Balin stone is an essential raw material. The natural colours of the stone provide the engraver with the prerequisite mental draft for a creation. The engraver gives free rein to his imagination using the natural veins and patches of colour on the stone to obtain a final mental image of an imaginary pattern or composition before wielding his burin.

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Mr. Wang Zhao, who was born into a family of literati, has been greatly interested in the production of seal handles since 1981. He collected seal stones and is self-taught in the art of seal handle engraving and, of course, he uses Balin stone for his imaginative engravings of deities, monks, animals, insects, flowers and fruit. From his pieces one can see his originality and method of expression. He has broken with traditional convention, creatively incorporating and applying Western methods of sculpture to form a style of his own.

For a decade or more he has studied and exchanged his skills with those of other seal handle lovers in order to perfect his creations, widen his themes, and to obtain a comprehensive knowledge of this field. Many of his works have been purchased and are being collected by friends both at home and abroad.

Translated by K.V. Ku
Photos & Text by Liu Jiaxiang

1. The comb and crop of this cock is cut out using the natural colour of the stone.
2. Starting out as a "stone fan" Wang Zhao has become an artist of seal handle engraving.
3. This snail and the speckled stone is rendered from one whole piece.
4. Semi-transparent seal handle in the shape of a lion
5. The liveliness and colour of this scorpion keeps visitors' hands off the exhibit.
6. The old fisherman, basket and fish are engraved on the same stone pillar.
7. The old man and rock are also sculpted from a single piece of stone.

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The Yiche People's Kuzhazha Festival *in the Ailao Mountains*

Every year in the fifth lunar month each hamlet in the Ailao Mountains at the southern bank of the Honghe River in southern Yunnan is a scene of jubilance as the Yiche people celebrate one of their grandest festivals – Kuzhazha Festival. The busy spring ploughing has finished and people start to enjoy recreational activities and to pray for abundant harvests of food crops, good health, and thriving domestic animals in the coming year.

It was getting dark by the time we reached Yichezhai, a hamlet at Dayangjie Township about 40 kilometres away from the county town. The 1,700 or so Yiche people belong to the Hani nationality and mainly inhabit the areas such as Dayangjie, Langdi and Chegu in Honghe County. Young Yiche women traditionally wear white hats, silver ornaments on their chest and waist and mini-pants. Unfortunately, few people like to wear their traditional costumes today, except for the pointed white hat.

On the first day of the festival every hamlet must dredge their wells and clean the surround thoroughly. Young people would go to the mountain behind their hamlet to cut down a pine tree to make a revolving swing at the threshing ground outside the hamlet. They then use chestnut wood and rattans to make various swings which would be used to give performances. These kinds of recreational activities form the main content of the Kuzhazha Festival.

Around the hamlet we found many piles of meat placed on the ground. We learned that according to tradition every hamlet must slaughter pigs and cattle on the first day of the festival and divide the meat equally among the households.

At the threshing ground we saw Yiche men running around the revolving swing holding burning pine torches. From time to time they sprayed a few mouthfuls of wine onto the swing. This was what the local people called "offering a sacrifice to the swing". Before long a group of young Yiche girls wearing pointed white hats crowded onto the ground waiting for the young men to give their performances. The many silver ornaments they wore produced a clinking sound as they walked – they looked stunning.

Then came the young male performers. As they walked to the ground, the gaiety of the festival reached its climax

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amidst the sound of gongs and drums and cheers from the crowd. With warm applause from the young girls, the young men drove the swings to the mid-point, each swing higher than the last. They looked as if they were flying freely in the sky.

Just at that moment groups of Yiche girls arrived performing their Big Drum Dance and Fan Dance. Some were particularly eye-catching, wearing dark sunglasses and colourful clothes with their traditional silver ornaments. Sometimes they combined traditional dance with modern disco but their performances still bore some strong local colour.

According to traditional custom every family must light pine torches after sunset. Burning torches in hand, they walk around the house to perform "a mopping up" and then follow a forked chestnut rod to the top of the road outside the hamlet and place the torches beside the chestnut rod. This drives evil away from the house ensuring that the coming year is filled with peace and happiness.

Translated by Xiong Zhenru
Photos & Article by Ou Yansheng

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1. Performing on the revolving swing
2. Disco dancing has influenced traditional Yiche dances.
3. A Yiche people's hamlet
4. Offering pine torches as sacrifice to the revolving swing
5. Distributing meat for each household

A Grand *Prayer Ceremony* at Shenzhen's Hongfa Temple

Hidden among the trees and green lawns of Shenzhen's Fairy Lake Botanical Garden is a group of magnificent buildings housing the newly built Hongfa Temple, or Temple for Glorifying the Buddhist Truth. Constructced in 1985, the temple was ordained as a seminary in 1992. There are now more than 30 monks in the temple, most of them graduates from Buddhist seminaries from various parts of China.

Throughout the past thousand years or more, no significant temple existed in Shenzhen, and therefore no grand prayer service had ever been held. According to Buddhist belief, lost souls who have died on land or in water cannot be redeemed without this ceremony and so, coinciding with the 88th birthday of Monk Ben Huan, the abbot of the temple, and the completion of the main structures of the temple, the first

1. Over 300 monks and lay Buddhists perform the Purifying the Altar. Here they are symbolically following the footprints of the Buddha (by Zhang Zhengang).
2. Hongfa Temple is hidden among trees in Shenzhen's Fairy Lake Botanical Garden (by Shi Bao Xiu).
3. Burning the Prajna boat and other paper articles

1. At midnight lay Buddhists from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan read scriptures during the Inner Ceremony.
2. The grand prayer ceremony coincided with the 88th birthday of Monk Ben Huan, the abbot of Hongfa Temple.
3. Monks live on simple fare even during the grand prayer ceremony.
4. Monks chanting scriptures in the Mahavira Hall

grand prayer ceremony for lost souls was held. On the 11th day of the 9th lunar month last year more than 300 lay Buddhists and monks from Buddhist seminaries in different parts of China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Singapore and the United States were invited to attend the first ceremony at Hongfa Temple.

The ceremony included Purifying the Altar, Beginning the Ceremony, Inner Ceremony, Delivering Offerings, Eating a Vegetarian Meal, Making Offerings to Heaven and Performing the Yoga Prayer.

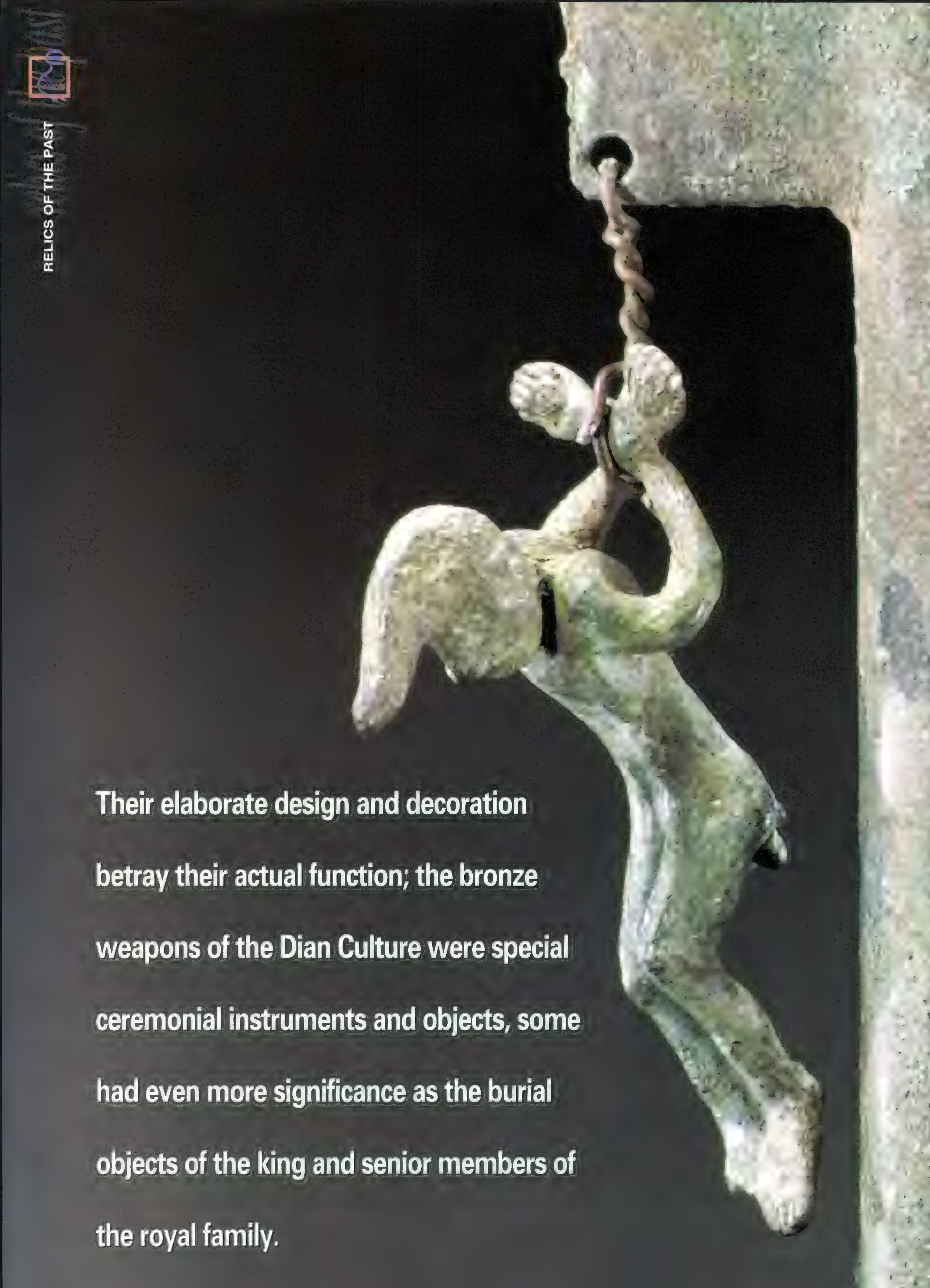
On the first day, believers and lay Buddhists from other parts of China and from overseas arrived and soon all the guest rooms in the temple were full. Those arriving late slept on the floor of the Mahavira Hall. Despite the fact that it was a cold night in late autumn, even elderly ladies slept fully clad on the freezing cold floor. It was probably their sincere belief in the Buddha that enabled them to do so.

The prayer ceremony began with the beating of a large drum and three rings of a large bell. Smoke curled into the air and the noise level grew as more than 1,000 believers burned incense sticks, kowtowed and chanted the Amitabha Sutra. The Inner Ceremony forms the main part of the prayer ceremony and this was held after midnight. Guided by the abbot and monks, the believers and lay Buddhists, prayed solemnly and in silence.

The stage of Delivering Offerings, held on the eighth day, marked the completion of the prayer ceremony. Believers formed a long procession heading for an open ground in the botanical garden. The procession was heralded by a Western band, 16 young ladies carrying Buddhist flags, two large gongs carried by four people, and a double file of 26 men carrying lanterns and trays of offerings. When the procession arrived at the open ground, a Prajna boat symbolizing the ferrying of lost souls and other paper articles were burned.

The last day of the prayer ceremony was also the birthday of the abbot of Hongfa Temple. Jubilant birthday celebrations ensued creating a lively atmosphere for the prayer ceremony. Birthday congratulations were received from representatives of the abbot's hometown, from Hong Kong, Guangdong and other provinces who arrived one after another at the temple, raising the celebrations to a climax.

Translated by Tang Bowen
Photos & Article by Yang Yankang



Their elaborate design and decoration betray their actual function; the bronze weapons of the Dian Culture were special ceremonial instruments and objects, some had even more significance as the burial objects of the king and senior members of the royal family.

Mysterious Ancient Bronze Weapons Unearthed in Yunnan

Bronze spear with two hanging human figures

Around the first century B.C. bronzeware flourished in today's Yunnan Province. This ancient culture was brought to light after a large variety of finely cast articles were unearthed. Buried for more than 2,000 years the popularity for bronzeware existed mainly in the area around Lake Dianchi and so archaeologists named it the Dian Culture. Unearthed from ancient tombs on Stone Stockade Hill in Jinning and Li Family Hill in Jiangchuan, Yunnan Province, the bronze weapons and ceremonial instruments below exemplify the characteristics and style of this Dian Culture and from part of the finest collection of exhibits at the Yunnan Provincial Museum.

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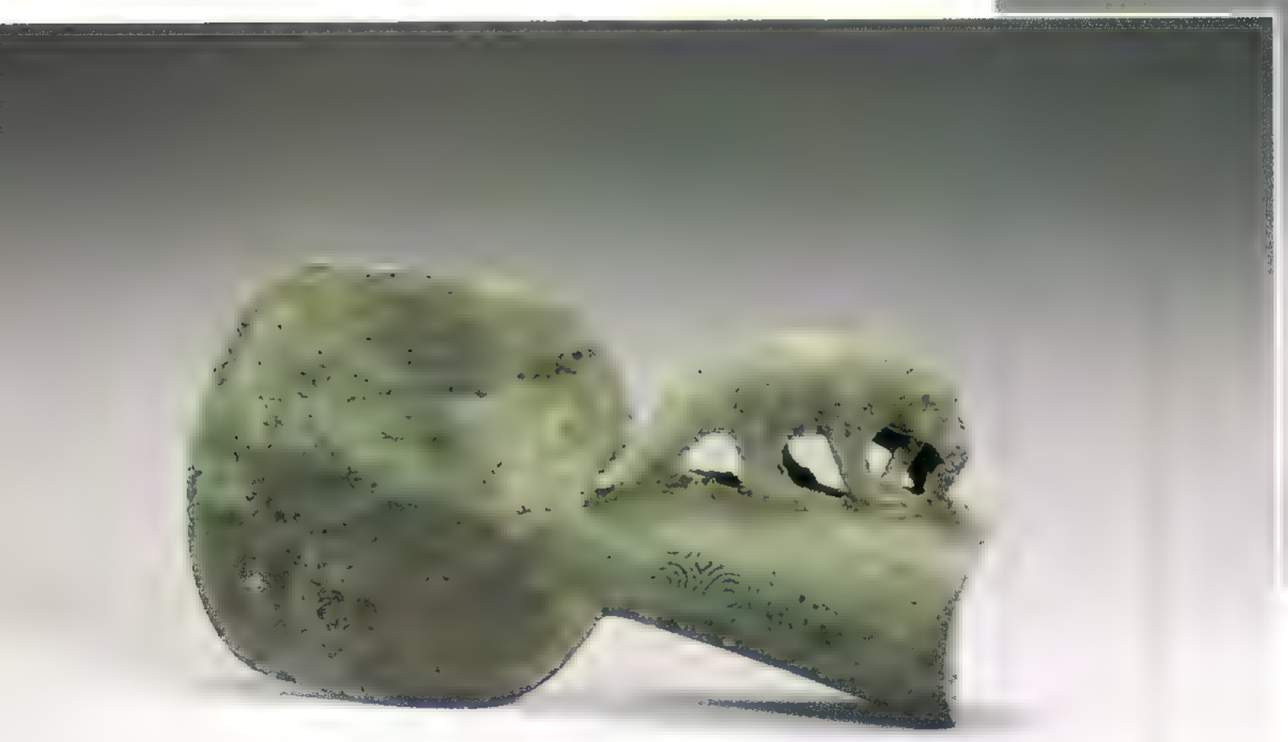

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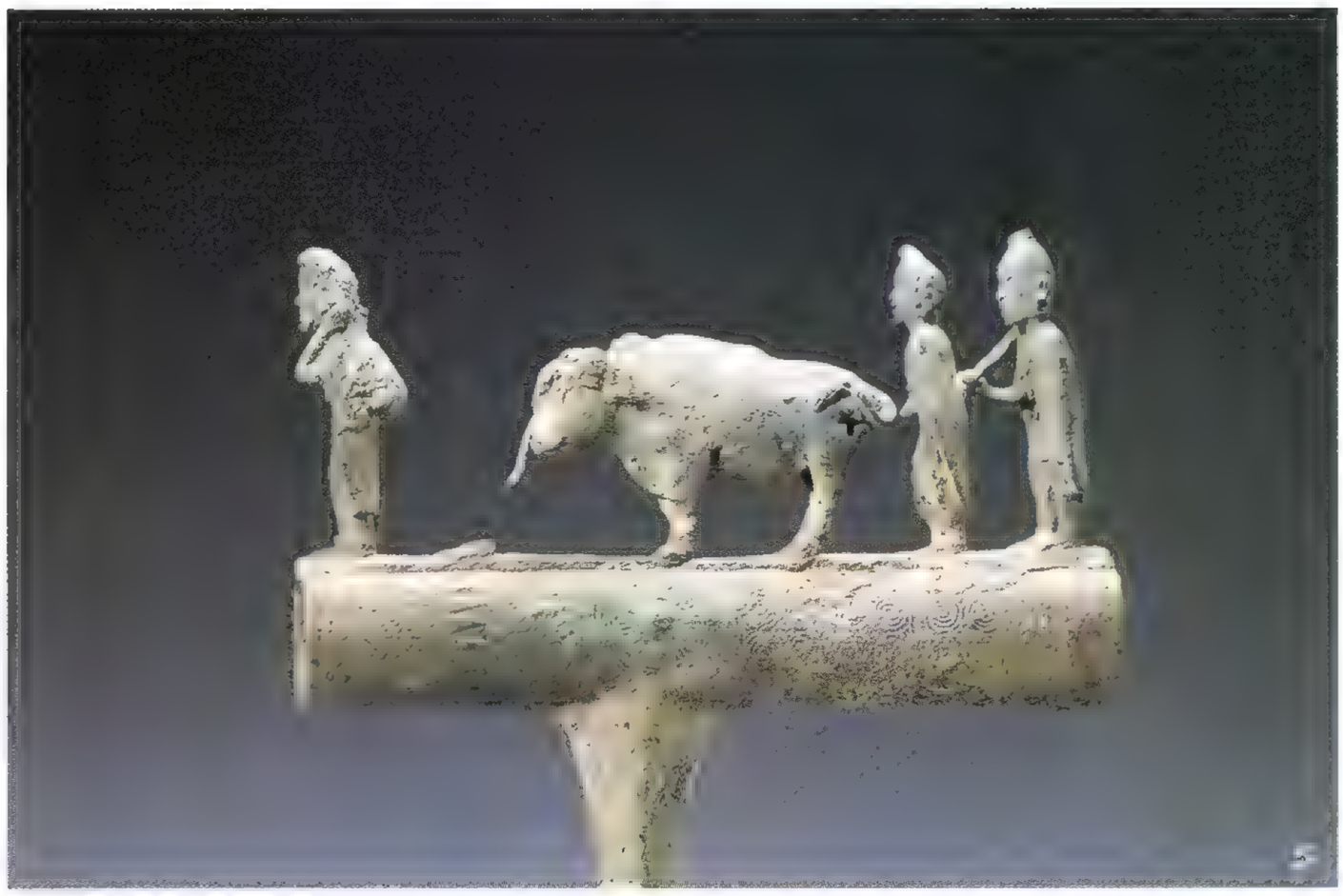
The Dian bronzeware culture is separated from the many other cultures in Chinese archaeology mainly because of the way the weapons are decorated and their design content. For example, a large variety of bronze weapons of the Dian Culture such as the dagger-axe, spear, axe, battle-axe and sword, were cast in the traditional style of the Shang and Zhou dynasties and later times; others, such as the bronze fork, trident and spiked club, are rarely seen in other regions. Traditional decorations, such as the cloud and thunder, dragon and snake, and ogre-mask designs, are also found on the bronze weapons of the Dian Culture. In addition to designs cast in bas-relief, there are round decorations of human figures and animals, and some of them are arranged to relay a plot. The fact that these decorations were cast on the handles totally excludes and negated the practical purpose of using these weapons in real battle and therefore



turned them into special ceremonial instruments or ceremonial objects. Some of these bronze weapons were actually burial objects of the King of Dian (owner of Tomb No. 6 on Stone Stockade Hill) and senior members of the royal family giving them special significance. The fine craftsmanship with which these weapons were cast and the mysterious touch of the decorations impart a special appeal.

THREE MEN AND AN OX BRONZE PICK

This was a burial object found in the tomb of the Dian king. A miniature group sculpture of three men and an ox is cast on the handle of this bronze pick. Traces show that there were originally four men. One of them was damaged and lost before the fork was unearthed. The men and ox are arranged in single file. The leading man is in the image of an ancient trekker with a back pack, the sling of the pack suspended from his forehead. His left arm is raised to steady the pack. Behind him is an ox with a rope tied across the horns instead of through the nose depicting a very ancient practice. The hair of the two men behind the ox is arranged in a pointed knot which hangs over their foreheads. Each of them wears a long cloak. All three men walk barefooted, which is still the custom of local people.

BRONZE SWORD WITH HEAD-HUNTER DECORATION

This short sword was cast wholly in bronze. An unusual human figure appears on each side of the handle. The human figure has round, wide-opened eyes and a large mouth. His bared teeth look like the pointed teeth of a saw. He holds a similar sword in his right hand and a severed human head in his left. The blade of the sword is also decorated in bas-relief on both sides with human figures with round eyes and bared teeth. But these human figures are in the squatting position with their arms extended. Their ferocious faces show that they are no ordinary mortals. Are they imaginary demons or sorcerers wearing masks at a sacrificial ceremony? The severed head proves that sacrificial head-hunting was in practice during the ceremonies of the primitive local people.

STAFF WITH SCULPTURED FISH, SNAKE AND HUMAN FIGURE

The crown of the staff is ornamented with a cross-armed upright figure with cloud patterns on his shoulders. A bronze drum is cast above his head, and above the drum is a fish with its head in the mouth of a snake which winds around its body. A bronze bell hangs below the head of the fish. There seems to be a mysterious meaning in the composition of this group sculpture.

BRONZE SPEAR WITH TWO HANGING HUMAN FIGURES

Hanging on the flukes of this spear are two naked male prisoners. With their arms tied behind them and their hair dishevelled, they look dejected and miserable. The image is both ghastly and chilling.

Translated by Tang Bowen
Photos by Xing Yi
Article by Yi Xuezhong

1. Battle-axe decorated with a pangolin
2. Staff with sculptured fish, snake and human figure
3. Bronze axe decorated with four beasts
4. Bird-head-shaped bronze axe
5. Three men and an ox bronze pick
6. Bronze sword with head-hunter decoration

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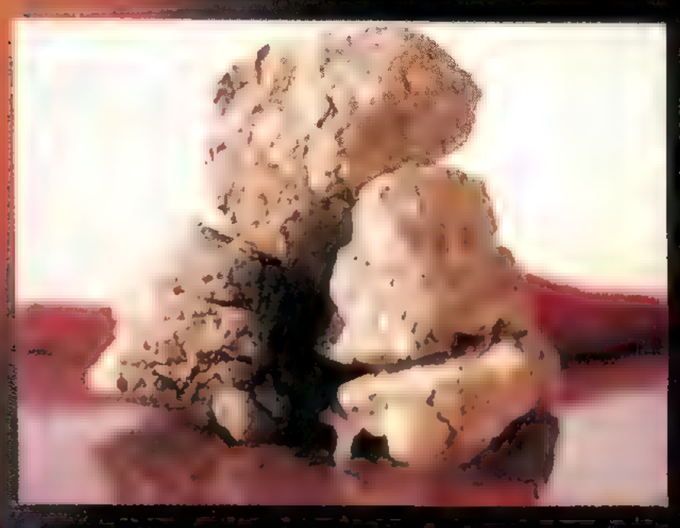
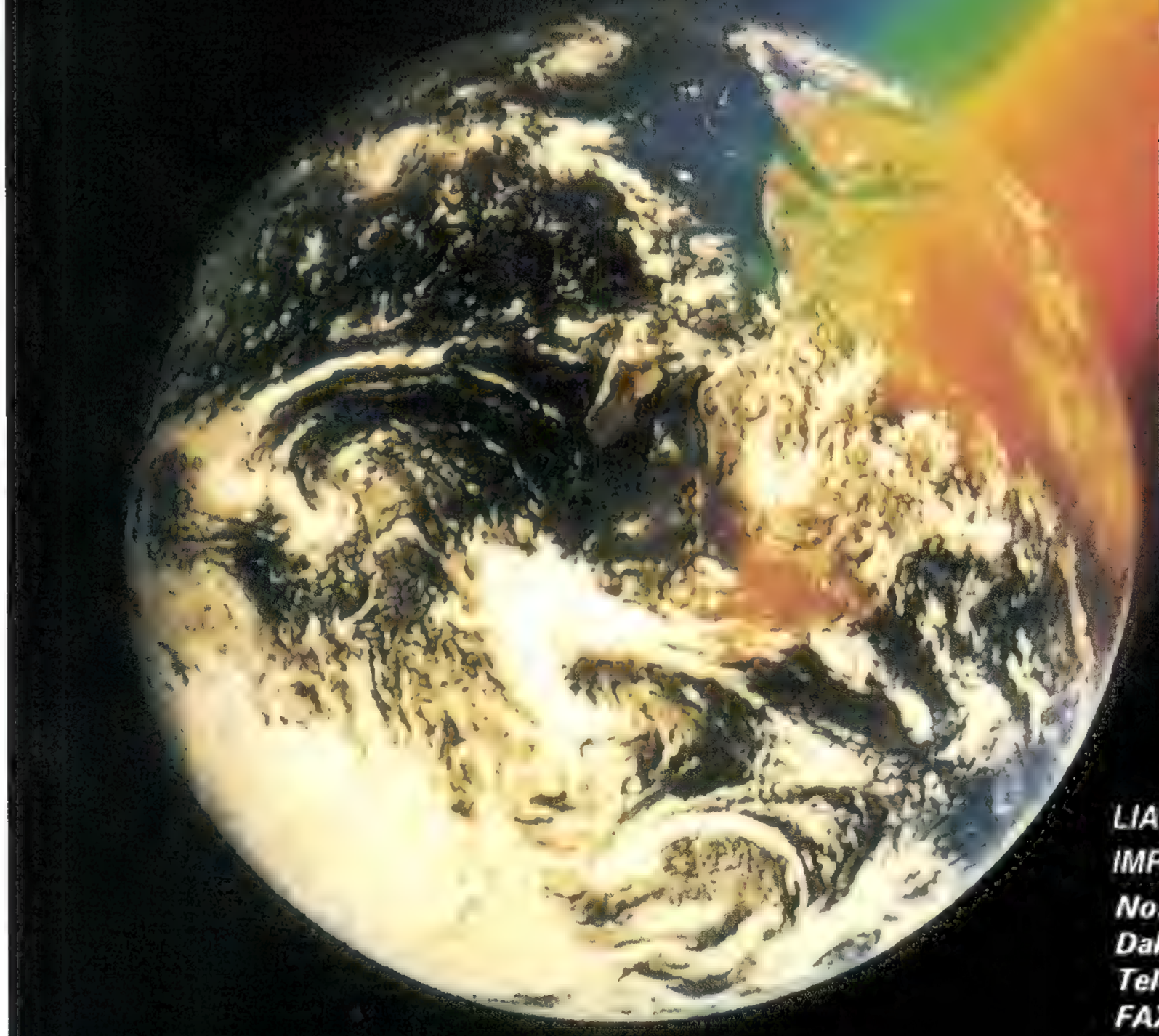
The Corporation's principal export commodities are steel products, pig iron, non-ferrous metals, ferro-alloy, copper-aluminium products, cast and forged products, fasteners, flanges, wire rope, welding wire and a considerable variety of hardwares, talc, magnesite products, fluorspar, silicon carbide, graphite, bentonite, cement, stone products and other non-metalic minerals as well as building materials. Its main imports are steel products, pig iron, steel scraps, demolition vessels, etc.





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TRAVELLERS' CORNER

Kanas Lake

— A Little Piece of Heaven

In the northern-most point of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, where the countries of Kazakhstan, Russia, and Mongolia meet with China, is a piece of paradise nestled in the Altay Mountains – Kanas Lake! News of its pristine and pollution-free beauty has reached the outside world and it is now becoming a hot tourist destination, as more than just the local people want to enjoy this retreat.

From June through to September (between the snowy season) the small resort by the lake is open for tourism. Staff are multinational (most belonging to China's minority groups), adding a touch of uniqueness to the area. A Russian manages the resort, a Tatar steers the boats, room attendants are Kazak, and the cooks are Han. Frequent visitors are the neighbouring Tuva people while lingua franca is Kazak and Putonghua.

Borders are not important in this remote area. Sunning myself on the bridge over Kanas River I was met by a Kazak man who had just ridden over the mountains for five days from Kazakhstan to visit his relatives!

I have made the trip twice and if I could, I would make it a yearly retreat. However, getting there is not so easy, or should I say not so pleasant. One can either take the one-hour flight which leaves three times a week from Urümqi, the capital of Xinjiang, or the bus, which takes 17 hours to Altay via Karamay (Urümqi-Karamay takes six hours).

Once in Altay the negotiations begin. One needs to hire a jeep to make the 10-hour trip to the lake. The first time I went to Kanas Lake in 1994, there were numerous jeeps available, all parked outside the Altay Hotel. But when I returned in 1995 the hotel had to do some calling around to find one. Jeeps could be hired in Burqin, rather than in Altay but Burqin is closed to foreigners, so a permit is needed from the local Public Security Bureau of Foreign Affairs. A permit is also needed if travelling directly to Kanas Lake from Altay.

1. A Kazak campsite
2. Kazak graffiti in two alphabets
3. A Kazak horsewoman
4. Lunch: curds, butter and salt milk tea
5. Crystal clear Kanas Lake

Poor road construction between Altay and Burqin drags what could be a relatively comfortable ride into hours of rocks and dust. Were I to return to Kanas, I would take the mini-bus to Burqin and spend the night there. The route to Kanas Lake from Burqin is over a rough road and can take more than the usual six hours if the road is a mass of mud (which it was both times I went, once in late June and the second time in late August).

Dry desert-like conditions at the beginning of the road give way to wide open pastureland dotted by Kazak yurts, and then the road enters a birch forest, crosses a bridge over Kanas River, travels cross-country over meadows, passing Little Kanas Lake, and an hour later passes a small village belonging to the Tuva people, finally arriving at Kanas Lake.

Our permit gave us two days at Kanas Lake and the surrounding region. What to do? First choose a room! The deluxe version is a bed in a small chalet, but there are cheaper options at the lodge, the quanset hut dorms, and lastly, in the yurts. Independent camping is frowned upon (we tried, as we had a tent). Outdoor taps adjacent to the main building yield wash water, and a generator provides electricity.

Then what to eat?! This is the only place to which I have travelled in China where one can run a tab! I just let the staff know if I was going to eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner and they ran my tab, which also included accommodation, boat rental, and so on. Eating is easy – no choices for breakfast, simply steamed buns every day, or lunch which varies according to the cook's whim. Dinner is an "open menu" based on what's available in the kitchen. My favourite meal was the Uygur-style *pilov* with fresh chunks of mutton! At night the "Christmas lights" are turned on in the dining hall and it becomes a banqueting and karaoke hall.

A small kiosk sells snacks and beer, as well as basic supplies.

Finally, what to do? That was no problem. In late June we could swim off the long wooden dock (in late August it was too cold). We tried fishing, as Kanas Lake is home to a rare fish whose name eludes me. Boats can be rented to "putt-putt" around the lake and take in the incredible beauty of the Altay Mountains. Since the driver remains at the resort, he may be agreeable to tour you around the area, such as to Little Kanas Lake, or up to the vista on the ridge. Either trip takes a half-day. Some drivers include these in the hire price of the vehicle, others add it on. Little Kanas Lake is a good place to visit one of the local Kazak herdsmen's yurts and enjoy a snack of dried curds, *nang*, salty milk tea and Kazak hospitality.

A half-hour's walk down the road from the resort is a quaint little village belonging to the Tuva people, who China has classified as Mongolian. They do speak Mongolian, and the children are taught to read in both Mongolian and Kazak. At least half of the village log houses are locked up, as the Tuva are semi-nomadic herdsmen like their Kazak neighbours and spend the summer in the lush pastures of the Altay Mountains. It is a busy season for the herdsmen who have to decamp their yurts and strap them to their camels in order to move camp in search of greener pastures for their sheep and other livestock. Back in the Tuva village, some Tuva are raising a few reindeer.

The entire area is a nature lover's delight! I kept asking the driver to stop because I wanted to take pictures constantly! In late June the meadows were awash with the bright colours of the millions of wild flowers everywhere! Some fields were predominantly yellow, or blue, or red, while others were an even blend of every colour in the rainbow! Tucked in the forest were bushes of wild peonies! And above it all, clear blue skies and mountain peaks were lightly dusted in snow! I was told to come in mid-September to see the fall colours, the birch and larch trees would be decked in every shade of gold!

Although I never saw any wildlife (apart from the hordes of mosquitoes and flies in late June), it was comforting to have the horses, sheep and goats belonging to the resort freely wandering around, munching to their stomach's delight. With skillful negotiation, a horse may be rented from the Tuva people.

Actually, people were the main problem I saw at Kanas Lake. Hordes of tourists flock there daily in their four-wheeled rigs, churning up the sod of the pasturelands that feed the sheep and constantly honking their horns at the sheep and camels as the Kazaks are in the midst of decamping. Like all pretty places in China, this is one that needs to be visited soon, before it is too late.

Photos & Article by Midge Conner

1. The Kazak herdsmen move camp.
2. A field of flowers

Business Tips

MARKETING

ChinaLink 2000

Hongkong Telecom announced the introduction of ChinaLink 2000, an on-line Chinese language database offering, for the first time, a comprehensive range of commercial and economic information direct from the China State Information Centre and Shenzhen Information Centre.

Beijing Furniture Showcase

In response to demand for high-quality furniture an international exhibition centre, jointly set up by the China National Furniture Association (CNFA) and the Beijing California Kent Wood Industrial Co. Ltd., will start operations in Beijing in April.

The exhibition area of about 10,000 square metres is to be known as the World Furniture Garden and is expected to draw at least 100 foreign and Chinese furniture companies as permanent exhibitors; thus allowing the world's leading furniture manufacturers to display their latest products to the Chinese consumer market.

The CNFA is also considering using the venue for the country's first International New Furniture Fair early this year.

EVENTS

Harbin Trade Fair

The 1996 Harbin Economic and Trade Fair, one of the largest in China, is scheduled to take place on June 15. Over 6,500 foreign investors and local businessmen are expected to attend, as well as representatives of a number of well-known corporations from the United States, Japan, Russia, the Republic of Korea and Hong Kong coming to "look over" China's business and investment situation.

Textile Show, Shanghai

The first international industrial textile production exhibition will be held in June co-sponsored by the Shanghai Textile Shareholding (Group) Co and the Shanghai Federation of Textile and Civil Engineering Societies. With the help of trade seminars on the use of technology and by importing advanced technologies it is hoped the exhibition will speed the development of local textile industries.

Packaging Fair, Beijing

An international packaging and industrial food-processing exhibition will be held in Beijing on July 3-7. The exhibits will include foodstuffs, printed matter and decorations, as well as paper, plastic and metal packaging equipment. Food-processing machines will include equipment to process meat, tinned foods, alcoholic drinks and other beverages.

Art Expo '96

China Art Expo '96, the fourth of its kind, is scheduled to open in Beijing's China International Exhibition Centre on August 16-20. Sponsored by the General Office of the Ministry of Culture and organized by China National Culture and Art Corp the designated 8,300 square metres will be offered to 360 stallholders.

So far, the China art exposition is the only channel by which foreign works of art can enter China's market thereby attracting overseas galleries, artists and institutions which in turn have attracted a growing number of interested Chinese art dealers, collectors and entrepreneurs. In order to further encourage overseas galleries, the Government has made important reviews on its import duties, with tax rates on works of art reportedly becoming significantly reduced.

Medical Fair in Beijing

An international exhibition on medical and health instruments in Beijing will be held towards the end of this year in November. International companies like Siemens from Germany; Sanyo, Hitachi, Toshiba from Japan; as well as Johnson and Xerox from the United States will show their latest products. The exhibition is jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation, the Ministry of Public Health and the China Medical Foundation.

TRANSPORTATION

Taiyuan Land Cargo Port Opens

A new land transportation port opened its doors to the outside world earlier this year in Taiyuan in land-locked Shanxi Province. The 112,000-square-metre port provides streamlined services ranging from customs declaration, import and export commodity inspection as well as animal, plant and hygiene quarantines.

The port, which is part of the Central Government's implementation plan to speed the pace of economic development in the central and western areas of the country, will initially be able to handle 300 containers and 6,000 tons of goods per month.

Urümqi's New Border Pass

A port of entry on the highway linking the Alataw Pass, in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region with Druzhba, in Kazakhstan, has opened. As a result, the Alataw Pass port of entry has become the only one in China's northwest handling highway and railroad transport.

New Moscow-Tianjin Air Route

In response to growing trade between Russia and China, an air route from Samaraq in central Russia to Tianjin in North China is to open soon offering one passenger flight and three cargo flights a week between the two cities. Samaraq Airways, who will operate the route, is the third largest airline in Russia. The company is reportedly also planning a direct air route to Shenzhen from Samaraq.

BANKING & FINANCE

HSBC in Chengdu

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd has received approval to open a representative office in Chengdu, capital of China's Sichuan Province. The Chengdu office, the 10th in China, will co-ordinate the bank's activities in Southwest China and introduce overseas investors and government officials there to project-finance facilities and other banking services.

Executive Jottings

Major Hotels in Guangdong and Shaanxi

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Bai Yun Hotel

白雲賓館

367 Huanshi Road East, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510060
Tel: 3333989 Telex: 44327 BYHTY CN
Fax: 3336498
700 rooms and suites
Located 10 min from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, bar, ballroom, health centre, beauty salon, sauna, massage, shopping arcade

China Hotel

中國大酒店

Liuhua Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510015
Tel: 86-20-6666888 Telex: 44888 CHLGZE CN
Fax: 86-20-6677014
Opened June 1984
1,017 rooms and suites
Located in city centre, 6 km from airport, 500 metres from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, ballroom, function rooms, tennis courts, swimming pool, shopping arcade, bowling centre, billiard room, health club, beauty salon, clinic

Dong Fang Hotel

東方賓館

Furama Hotel

富麗華酒店

316 Changdi Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510120
Tel: 8863288 Fax: 8863388
GM: Ngiam Tong Fatt
360 rooms and suites
Located 25 min from airport, 15 min from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, conference hall, business centre, bar, karaoke, disco, clinic, beauty salon

Garden Hotel

花園酒店

368 Huanshi Road East, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510064
Tel: (86-20) 3338989 Telex: 44788 GDHTL CN
Fax: (86-20) 3350467, 3350706
GM: Lawrence Boey
Opened 28 August 1985
1,112 rooms and 44 suites
Located 9 km from airport, 4.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurants, business centre, shopping arcade, gym, swimming pool, tennis courts, beauty salon, disco, billiard room, clinic, babysitting service

GITIC Riverside Hotel

廣東國際大廈

298 Yanjiang Road Central, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510100
Tel: 3839888 Telex: 440818 GXRSH CN
Fax: 3814448
331 rooms and suites
Located 15 min from airport and railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, shopping arcade, karaoke, gym, sauna, massage, tennis courts, swimming pool, beauty salon

Golden City Hotel

金城大廈

30 Miaoqian Road West, Dongshan, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510080
Tel: 7754888 Telex: 441228
Fax: 7766700, 7751970
GM: Miao Zhiyao
250 rooms
Located 10 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference centre, business centre, shopping arcade, clinic, gym, ballroom, karaoke, billiard room

Guangzhou Hotel

廣州賓館

Haizhu Square, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510115
Tel: 3338168 Telex: 44336 KCHTL CN
Fax: 0086-020-3330791
GM: Wang Zhijian
500 rooms and suites
Located 7 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurants with various local tastes, banquet hall, multi-function conference centre, business centre, shopping arcade, beauty salon, ballroom, karaoke

Guangdong International Hotel

廣東國際大酒店

339 Huanshi East Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510060
Tel: 3311888 Telex: 44556 GPHGZ CN
Fax: 0086-020-3311666, 3311555
GM: Yu Xiu Wei
Opened 8 July 1992
420 rooms and 282 suites
Located 20 min from airport, 10 min from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, banquet hall, conference hall, business centre, ballroom, karaoke, disco, shopping arcade, swimming pool, health club, fitness centre, tennis courts, bowling centre, clinic, beauty salon, facilities for the handicapped, babysitting service

Guangdong Victory Hotel

廣東勝利賓館

54 Shamian Street, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510130
Tel: 8862622 Telex: 441163 GDVH CN
Fax: 0086-020-8862413
GM: Li Xiu Rong
378 rooms
Located 8 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Japanese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, conference hall, business centre, shopping arcade, beauty salon, karaoke, health club, sauna, swimming pool, billiard room, clinic

Holiday Inn City Centre

皇冠文化假日酒店

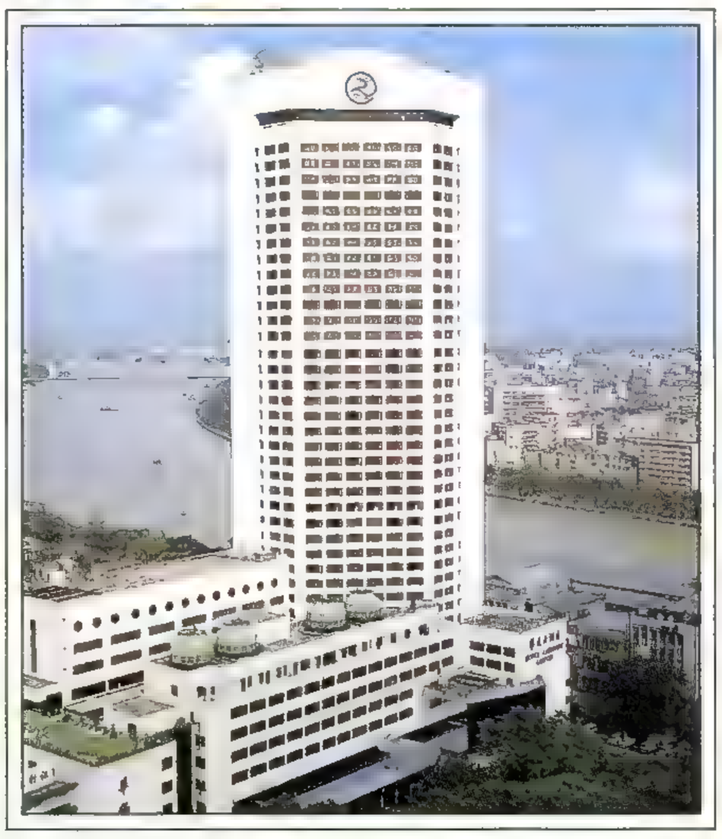
Guangming Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510060
Tel: 7766999 Telex: 441045 HICCG CN
Fax: 7753126
Opened March 1991
391 rooms and 40 suites
Located 12 km/20 min from airport, 4 km/10 min from railway station

Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, business centre, exhibition hall, function rooms, cinema, disco, bar, swimming pool, health club with gym, beauty salon

Hotel Equatorial

931 Renmin Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong
Tel: 6672888 Telex: 441168 EQUAT CN
Fax: 6672582, 6672586
Opened July 1989
310 rooms and suites
Located 15 min from airport, 5 min from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, banquet and conference rooms, business and convention centre, swimming pool, health centre, karaoke, disco, babysitting service, medical service

Hotel Landmark Canton



8 Qiaoguang Road, Haizhu Square, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510115
Tel: (86-20) 3355988 Telex: 441288 HLC CN
Fax: (86-20) 3336197
GM: David Ng
Opened 26 February 1991
730 rooms and 51 suites
Located 10 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, food street, banquet hall, business centre, karaoke, bar, beauty salon, indoor swimming pool, gym, clinic

Liuhua Hotel

194 Huanshi Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510017
Tel: 20-6668800 Telex: 44298 GZHH CN
Fax: 20-6667828
GM: Lin Jin Hai
Opened 14 October 1972
715 rooms and 45 suites
Located 6 km from airport
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, multi-purpose conference centre, coffee shop, beauty salon, karaoke

Nanhu Hotel

Tonghe, Shahe, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510515
Tel: 7706706 Telex: 44511 NANHU CN
Fax: 7706160
GM: Liang Hui
Opened April 1981
370 rooms
Located in the northeastern suburbs, 15 km from airport, 12 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, conference rooms, amusement park, boats, horses, shooting range, villas, swimming pool, dance hall, shopping arcade, business facilities

Overseas Chinese Hotel (Guangzhou)

90 Zhanqian Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510010
Tel: 6663488 Telex: 441178 OCHTL CN
Fax: 6663230
Opened 1957
400 rooms and suites
Located 20 min from airport, 0.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurants, conference centre, business centre, bar, coffee shop, shopping arcade, beauty salon, clinic, billiard room, ballroom

Plaza Canton

348 Jiangnan Road, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510245
Tel: 4418888 Telex: 441032 PLZCT CN
Fax: 0086-020-4429645
448 rooms
Located 11 km from airport, 8 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference-banquet hall, business centre, shopping arcade, gym, swimming pool, tennis courts, beauty salon, bar, karaoke, disco

White Swan Hotel

1 Southern Street, Shamian Island, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510133
Tel: 8886968 Telex: 44688 WSJ CN
Fax: (020) 861188
GM: Yang Xiao Peng
Opened 6 February 1983
744 rooms and 81 suites
Located 20 km from airport, 10 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, conference rooms, bar, coffee shop, nightclub, karaoke, swimming pools, health centre, tennis and squash courts, golf course, sauna, steambath, jacuzzi and massage room, beauty salon

Shenzhen, Guangdong

Ambassador Hotel

Shennan Road East, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518002
Tel: (0755) 2258388 Fax: (0755) 2259580
382 rooms and suites
Located 45 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon, massage

Bamboo Garden Hotel

29 North Dongmen Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518000
Tel: (0755) 5533138 Fax: (0755) 5534835
190 rooms and suites
Located 50 km from airport, 0.8 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, massage, bowling, steam bath

Century Plaza Hotel

新都酒店
Jianshe Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518001
Tel: (0755) 2220888 Fax: (0755) 2234060
428 rooms and suites
Located 42 km from airport, 200 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, florist, clinic, sauna, billiards, gym, swimming pool, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

Chin Loong Wan Hotel

晉龍灣賓館
Kangle Road, Shekou, Shenzhen 518067
Tel: 6691918 Telex: 420806 SIZ CN
Fax: 6692302
Opened 9 November 1985
189 rooms and suites
Located 18 km from airport, 30 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, beauty salon, shopping arcade, billiard room, conference room

China Regency Hotel

Bao'an Road North, Shenzhen 518002
Tel: 2260888 Fax: 2264495
150 rooms and suites
Located 30 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, conference rooms, banquet rooms, swimming pool, gym, sauna, massage, beauty salon, nightclub, karaoke, coffee shop, bar

Continental Hotel

洲際酒店
Shangbu Road North, Shenzhen 518029
Tel: 2263838 Telex: 420268 CSIEC CN
Fax: 2264139
GM: Brian Leong
Opened January 1993
220 rooms
Located 50 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference rooms, business centre, shopping arcade, bar, sauna, beauty salon, nightclub, coffee shop, karaoke, gym

Far East Grand Hotel

104 Shennan Road Central, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518002
Tel: (0755) 2205369 Fax: (0755) 2200239
292 rooms and suites
Located 33 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon, massage, swimming pool

Friendship Hotel

3 Jiabin Road, Shenzhen 518001
Tel: 2238286 Telex: 420456 SZFCO CN
Fax: 2238008
Opened April 1982
200 rooms
Located 40 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurants, conference rooms, business centre, beauty salon, coffee shop, dance hall, shopping arcade

Grand Skylight Hotel

格蘭雲天大酒店

68 Shennan Road Central, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518041
Tel: (0755) 3363698 Fax: (0755) 3362380
136 rooms and suites
Located 30 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, billiards, conference rooms, dance hall, shopping arcade, clinic, beauty salon

Guangdong Hotel

130 Shennan Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518001
Tel: (0755) 2228339 Fax: (0755) 2234560
177 rooms and suites
Located 30 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Haijing Hotel

海景酒店

Overseas Chinese Town, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518053
Tel: (0755) 6602222 Fax: (0755) 6600628
200 rooms and suites
Located 23 km from airport, 15 km from railway station
Facitlites: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, conference rooms, shopping arcade, business centre

Honey Lake Country Club

West Section of Shennan Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518034
Tel: (0755) 3305060 Fax: (0755) 3305045
452 rooms and suites
Located 20 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, massage, swimming pool, clinic

Hotel Oriental Regent

Financial Centre Building, Shennan Road Central, Shenzhen, 518001
Tel: (0755) 2247000 Fax: (0755) 2247290
407 rooms and suites
Located 40 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, coffee shop, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke,

shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Nanhai Hotel Shenzhen

Shekou Industrial Zone, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518069
Tel: (0755) 6692888 Fax: (0755) 6692440
396 rooms and suites
Located 30 km from airport, 30 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

New Garden Hotel

6 Xinyuan Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518000
Tel: (0755) 2226333 Fax: (0755) 2229943
310 rooms and suites
Located 42 km from airport, 2.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, swimming pool

Shangri-La Hotel

香格里拉大酒店

East side of Railway Station, Jianshe Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518001
Tel: (0755) 2230888 Fax (0755) 2239878
553 rooms and suites
Located 38 km from airport, 200 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, swimming pool, facilities for the handicapped

Shenzhen Bay Hotel

Overseas Chinese Town, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518053
Tel: (0755) 6600111 Fax: (0755) 6600139
307 rooms and suites
Located 23 km from airport, 15 km from railway station
Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

Shiyan Lake Hot-Spring Resort

石岩湖溫泉度假村

Hot-Spring Scenery Zone, Shiyan Lake, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518106
Tel: (0755) 7760341 Fax: (0755) 7605626
431 rooms and suites
Located 13 km from airport, 50 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, massage, swimming pool, billiards, tennis courts, hot-spring bath

Sunshine Hotel

陽光酒店

1 Jiabin Road, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518005
Tel: (0755) 2233888 Fax: (0755) 2226719
307 rooms and suites
Located 45 km from airport, 500 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, swimming pool, facilities for the handicapped

The Great Wall Hotel

長城大酒店

4 Honggui Road, Shenzhen 518001
Tel: 5583369 Fax: 5580424
GM: Wu Guohong
Opened 18 December 1991
142 rooms
Located 35 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, coffee shop, dance hall, beauty salon, bar, karaoke

Xili Hotel
西麗大酒店
81 Shennan Road Central, Shenzhen, Guangdong 518031
Tel: (0755) 3364139 Fax: (0755) 3363988
157 rooms and suites
Located 33 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage, baby sitting, steam bath

Xili Lake Holiday Resort
西麗湖度假村
Xili Lake, Nantou, Shenzhen 518055
Tel: 6660022 Telex: 420702 XILAR CN
Fax: 6660521
Opened October 1979
600 rooms and suites
Located 10 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, shopping arcade, business centre, disco, games room, horse-riding, swimming pool, karaoke, sauna, massage

Xi'an, Shaanxi

Bell Tower Hotel
鐘樓飯店
Southwest corner of Bell Tower, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710001
Tel: (029) 7278900 Fax: (029) 7218970
320 rooms and suites
Located 35 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, billiards, gym, massage, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

City Hotel
城市酒店
5 Nanda Street, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710002
Tel: (029) 7219988 Fax: (029) 7216688
138 rooms and suites
Located 40 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, massage, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

Dynasty Hotel
秦都酒店
55 North Section of Huancheng Road West, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710082
Tel: (029) 7212718 Fax: (029) 7212728
185 rooms and suites
Located 42.5 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, conference rooms, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage

Golden Flower Hotel
金花酒店
8 Changle Road West, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710032
Tel: (029) 3232981 Fax: (029) 3235477

498 rooms and suites
Located 20 mins from airport, 10 mins from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bars, conference rooms, banquet hall, shopping arcade, business centre, beauty salon, sauna, gym, swimming pool

Grand New World Hotel
三秦新世界大酒店

48 Lianhu Road, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710002
Tel: (029) 7216868 Fax: (029) 7214222
467 rooms and suites
Located 4 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, sauna, steam bath, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

Jianguo Hotel
建國飯店

20 Jinhua Road South, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710048
Tel: (029) 3238888 Fax: (029) 3235145
843 rooms and suites
Located 20 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Jiefang Hotel
解放飯店
Railway Station Square, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710004
Tel: (029) 7212927 Fax: (029) 7212617
363 rooms and suites
Located 7 km from airport, 100 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, disco, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, billiards

Sheraton Xi'an Hotel
喜來登大酒店
12 Fenghao Road, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710077
Tel: (029) 4261888 Fax: (029) 4262983
450 rooms and suites
Located 45 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Tangcheng Hotel
唐城賓館
3 Lingyuan Road South, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710061
Tel: (029) 7255711 Fax: (029) 7251041
391 rooms and suites
Located 50 km from airport, 10 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, massage, baby sitting

Xi'an Hotel
西安賓館

36 Chang'an Road North, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710061
(029) 5261351 Fax: (029) 5261796
545 rooms and suites
Located 50 km from airport, 6 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Xi'an Garden Hotel
西安雪華賓館
4 Yanyin Road East, Dayanta, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710061
Tel: (029) 7251111 Fax: (029) 7251998
301 rooms and suites
Located 48 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, dance hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Xi'an People's Hotel
西安人民大廈
319 Dongxin Street, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710004
Tel: (029) 7215111 Fax: (029) 7218152
584 rooms and suites
Located 46 km from airport, 2.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court

Travel Notes

The Art of Chinese Gardens

Among the tourist attractions of China are some well-known gardens such as Beijing's Summer Palace, Chengde's Imperial Mountain Resort (in Hebei), Yangzhou's Zhuozheng Garden and Wangshi Garden (both in Jiangsu), Shunde's Qinghui Garden, Panyu's Yuyin Villa (both in Guangdong), and many others.

The Chinese garden is a comprehensive artform composed of hills, water, buildings, flowers and trees. Rich in poetic and artistic content it is known as "a solidified painting and a three-dimensional poem". Its objective is to convey natural beauty through the composition of multiple scenic spots within a limited space, with only the slightest hint of artifice. The layout of a Chinese garden, can be either grand and imposing or tranquil and refined; artistically novel and fresh or simple and elegant. Using rocks, water and trees gardeners present, in a distilled form, the beauty of nature through an intricate composition of compounds, rockeries and the use of paths, bridges and plants.

The Arrangement of Hills and Rockeries Chinese gardens invariably have artificial rockeries, ponds and lakes or slopes with a stream and bridge nearby to create a quiet, serene atmosphere. Other gardeners like to build imposing rockeries, some winding and zigzagging. The Lion Forest of Suzhou is a good example.

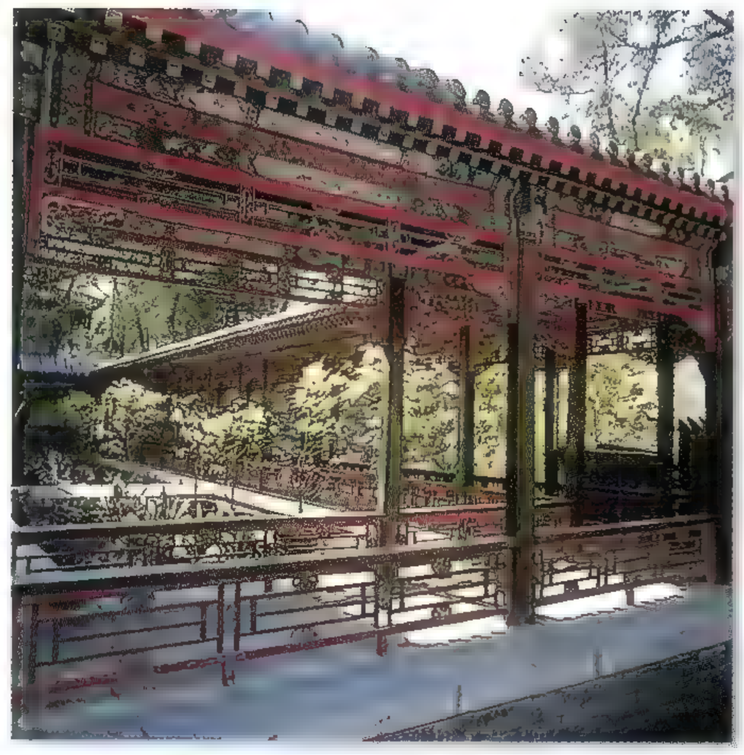
It is a delight to stand on the nine-curve bridge of West Lake in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, and look across at the pond (by Zhang Keqing).

Cultivation of Flowers and Trees Plants instil life into the gardens, and beautiful landscapes are nothing without flowers and trees. Chinese gardeners are especially good at creating wonderful scenes with plants. All kinds of flowers and trees are used in Chinese gardens thus ensuring a variety of colour in all four seasons to delight visitors.

Composition of Compounds Structures in Chinese gardens are built according to the terrain and theme. Usually they are sited on different levels. From the balcony of the highest chamber you can contemplate the moon while reclining on the balustrade of the pavilion, or beside the bridge you can stare at the fish swimming in the pond. Each building has its own special function. Visitors can enjoy beautiful views from wherever they are.

A waterside pavilion in Suzhou's West Garden in Jiangsu. Flowers and fish in the pond make it a scenic attraction (by Zhang Keqing).

The Layout of Lanes and Paths In small gardens, paths are built around a hill or pond, while in medium-sized gardens there are many paths branching through a forest of trees or across a river. Some allow you to climb a mountain to look into the distance, or plunge into a valley to explore new scenic spots. You can walk along winding corridors, or they might lead you into a room or chamber. Some hidden, some open, the arrangement of paths offers infinite variety. They not only link scenic spots but involve one in



The long winding corridor of the residence of Prince Gong in Beijing reveals the ingenuity of the designer (by Gao Mingyi).

activity and rest. In vast and grand imperial gardens there are gardens within gardens. The Xiequyuan or the Garden of Harmonious Interest in the Summer Palace of Beijing and the Jingxinzhai or the Study of Tranquility of Beihai Park are two fine examples. These smaller gardens are designed to add to the serenity and beauty of the larger gardens, yielding more pleasure to visitors.

And don't forget to look at the couplets, placards, tablets and inscriptions. Good couplets hung on the pillars and placards, are written in a few succinct words and are able to highlight the attraction of the landscape or building. They serve as a guide to the tourist to enhance their interest and to add charm to the scenery. A case in point is the 180-word-long couplet on the Grand View Tower in Kunming, Yunnan Province. It praises the beautiful scenery and at the same time expresses the writer's meditations of the past. Reading it visitors deepen their understanding of the place and perhaps even grow an attachment for classic Chinese gardens.

Translated by Anne Yan

The towers, water and rockery of the Tuisi Garden in Suzhou, Jiangsu are natural and form a harmonious scene (by Liu Fuju)

Flights to and from Shenzhen

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Shenzhen	5	08:55	12:00	CA973
	6	10:05	15:20	CA1395
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:20	14:15	CJ6309
	1 3 4	12:20	15:20	CZ3152
	6	12:40	15:55	CZ343
	1 2 4 5 6	13:30	16:20	4G822
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:45	16:45	CA1303
	1 3 7	14:05	17:15	CJ6702
	3 6	15:50	19:20	CZ3158
	3 7	16:40	19:35	4G802
	1 5	16:40	21:25	4G830
	2 4 6	16:40	21:10	4G880
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:25	20:20	CA1305
	7	18:10	21:20	CZ3160
Shenzhen — Beijing	1 5	08:10	12:30	4G803
	2 4 6	08:20	12:30	4G821
	1 2 3 4 5 6	08:35	11:40	CZ3151
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:30	12:25	CA1306
	1 3 7	10:20	13:15	CJ6701
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:40	15:50	4G801
	2 6	13:20	17:40	X2 118
	7	14:10	17:25	CZ344
	2	15:05	18:20	CZ3155
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:25	18:20	CJ6310
	6	15:30	18:30	CA974
	6	15:55	21:10	CA1396
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:40	20:35	CA1304
Jakarta — Shenzhen	6	08:55	14:30	CA974
Shenzhen — Jakarta	5	13:10	16:45	CA973
Kunming — Shenzhen	3 6	08:55	10:35	SZ4373
	1 2 5	13:20	17:00	CZ3460
	2 7	16:50	18:45	3Q4395
	4 5	17:10	19:00	3Q4393
	1 3 6	17:15	18:50	4G834
Shenzhen — Kunming	1 2 5	08:50	12:40	CZ3459
	3 6	11:30	13:30	SZ4374
	1 3 6	14:40	16:20	4G833
	2 7	19:25	21:45	3Q4396
	4 5	19:40	22:10	3Q4394
Shanghai — Shenzhen	2 3 4 6 7	07:50	10:00	MU5367
	1 3 5	08:40	10:40	SF373
	1 5	09:10	11:15	MU547
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:40	14:00	CZ3554
	2 5	12:55	15:15	SZ4535
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:35	16:45	SF375
	2 4 7	19:05	21:30	4G806
	3 6	19:05	21:30	4G812
Shenzhen — Shanghai	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:00	11:00	CZ3553
	3 6	09:35	11:25	4G811
	2 5	10:05	12:10	SZ4536
	2 3 4 5 6 7	11:00	12:55	MU5368
	1 3 5	11:25	13:35	SF374
	2 4 7	12:05	14:20	4G805
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:35	19:45	SF376
	1 5	19:25	21:30	MU548
Taiyuan — Shenzhen	1	08:10	11:25	GP7305
	4	08:10	11:25	GP7307
Shenzhen — Taiyuan	1	16:25	19:35	GP7306
	4	17:30	20:40	GP7308

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Xi'an — Shenzhen	1 2 4 6	07:30	09:50	WH2325
	3 7	18:40	21:10	CZ3252
Shenzhen — Xi'an	1 2 4 6	10:55	13:20	WH2326
	3 7	15:30	18:00	CZ3251
Zhengzhou — Shenzhen	1 3 4 6	08:35	10:50	CZ3966
	1 4 7	12:20	14:40	Z2 337
	6	12:20	14:40	Z2 337
	2 5 7	17:35	19:45	4G808
Shenzhen — Zhengzhou	2 3 5 7	11:45	14:00	CZ3965
	2 5 7	14:35	16:45	4G807
	6	15:20	17:40	Z2 338
	1 4 7	18:30	20:40	Z2 338

Flights to and from Zhengzhou

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Zhengzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:45	11:05	CZ3116
	1 3 4 5 6 7	10:20	11:40	Z2 312
	2	14:50	15:50	Z2 314
	1 5	18:50	20:10	CZ3176
	2 6	19:25	20:45	CZ3172
Zhengzhou — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:45	09:05	CZ3115
	1 3 4 5 6 7	08:20	09:40	Z2 311
	2	08:20	09:40	Z2 313
	2 6	13:10	14:30	CZ3171
	1 5	16:50	18:10	CZ3175
Guangzhou — Zhengzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:40	12:50	CZ3392
	2 4 6	15:05	17:10	Z2 332
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:30	18:40	CZ3394
	3 7	17:10	19:20	Z2 332
	1 3 5	19:40	21:50	CZ 3396
Zhengzhou — Guangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:50	10:00	CZ3391
	3 7	08:25	10:30	Z2 331
	2 4 6	08:30	10:55	Z2 331
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:45	15:55	CZ3393
	1 3 5	16:40	19:00	CZ3395
Kunming — Zhengzhou	2 5 7	07:15	09:25	3Q4681
	3 6	19:40	22:00	CZ3480
Zhengzhou — Kunming	2 5 7	15:15	17:55	3Q4682
	3 6	16:30	19:00	CZ3479
Shanghai — Zhengzhou	1 2 4 6	10:10	12:00	Z2 356
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:45	15:30	CZ3594
	4 7	18:55	20:30	CZ3598
	2	19:45	21:25	CZ3498
Zhengzhou — Shanghai	1 2 4 6	08:05	09:25	Z2 355
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:35	13:05	CZ3593
	4 7	16:20	18:05	CZ3597
	2	17:35	19:10	CZ3497
Taiyuan — Zhengzhou	3 7	08:10	09:20	GP7301
Zhengzhou — Taiyuan	3 7	18:50	20:10	GP7302

Flights to and from Kunming

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Bangkok — Kunming	4	09:00	12:05	CZ392
	1 4	11:30	14:30	3Q462
	2 3 5 6 7	17:00	20:00	3Q466
Kunming — Bangkok	1 4	09:40	10:30	3Q461
	2 3 5 6 7	15:10	16:00	3Q465
	3	17:10	18:10	CZ391
Beijing — Kunming	1 3 6	08:00	12:30	X2 101
	3	08:05	11:50	CA905
	2 4 6	08:05	11:45	CA1403
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:10	14:25	3Q4122
	4 7	15:50	19:10	SZ4172
	5	16:00	19:25	3Q4184
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:00	21:25	3Q4182
Kunming — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:30	10:25	3Q4121
	4 7	12:00	15:10	SZ4171
	5	12:25	15:20	3Q4183
	2 4 6	12:25	15:25	CA1404
	1 3 6	13:15	17:30	X2 102
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:30	17:25	3Q4181
	3	17:45	20:40	CA906
Guangzhou — Kunming	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:25	09:40	CZ3409
	4	08:30	10:50	CZ393
	1 2 3 5 6 7	09:25	11:45	3Q4382
	2 4 7	13:30	15:50	3Q4344
	4	14:30	16:50	3Q4384
	3 4 6 7	15:55	18:15	CZ3417
	3 6	16:40	18:50	SZ4372
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:55	22:20	3Q4342
Kunming — Guangzhou	2 4 7	07:00	08:40	3Q4343
	1 2 3 5 6 7	07:20	08:55	3Q4381
	4	07:20	09:05	3Q4383
	3 6	14:15	15:50	SZ4371
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:20	18:20	CZ3410
	4	16:35	18:30	CZ394
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:35	19:15	3Q4341
	3 4 6 7	19:00	20:50	CZ3418
Hong Kong — Kunming	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:25	15:35	CZ342
Kunming — Hong Kong	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:35	12:30	CZ341
Shanghai — Kunming	1 3 5 6 7	08:30	11:40	SF451
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:45	13:50	3Q4542
	1 4	11:00	14:15	MU5405
	2 6	13:50	17:15	SZ4518
	1	16:00	18:50	3Q4544
	4 7	19:35	22:40	3Q4546
Kunming — Shanghai	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:25	09:55	3Q4541
	2 6	10:10	13:00	SZ4517
	1 3 5 6 7	12:30	15:15	SF452
	1	12:45	15:20	3Q4543
	1 4	15:05	17:15	MU5406
	4 7	16:10	18:55	3Q4545
Singapore — Kunming	3 6	12:35	16:20	3Q464
Kunming — Singapore	3 6	08:05	11:35	3Q463
Vientiane — Kunming	4	13:10	15:40	CZ394
Kunming — Vientiane	4	11:40	12:10	CZ393

Flights to and from Xi'an

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Xi'an	2 5 7	07:35	09:10	CA1215
	1 2 4 5 7	10:50	12:30	WH2124
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:35	15:25	CA1201
	3 7	13:55	15:45	CA1225
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:30	19:15	WH2108
	3 6	17:45	19:35	WH2604
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:25	20:10	WH2102
Xi'an — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:00	09:40	WH2101
	1 2 4 5 7	08:15	09:55	WH2123
	3 6	09:00	10:50	WH2603
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:25	16:15	WH2107
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:15	18:15	CA1202
Guangzhou — Xi'an	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:00	14:35	WH2306
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:50	17:30	CZ3201
	3 7	15:30	18:15	WH2366
	2	17:00	19:25	WH2324
	1	18:10	20:35	WH2368
	3 6	18:55	21:10	WH2322
Xi'an — Guangzhou	2	07:55	10:40	WH2323
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:25	11:00	WH2305
	3 6	08:40	11:10	WH2321
	1	09:05	11:30	WH2367
	3 7	11:50	14:45	WH2365
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:10	20:40	CZ3202
Hong Kong — Xi'an	2 4 6 7	18:00	20:20	CZ322
Xi'an — Hong Kong	2 4 6 7	14:30	17:00	CZ321
Nagoya — Xi'an	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:30	20:05	WH292
Xi'an — Nagoya	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:20	14:15	WH291
Shanghai — Xi'an	2 4 6	13:25	15:50	SF203
	4	14:25	17:00	WH2524
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:05	20:05	WH292
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:00	21:20	WH2502
Xi'an — Shanghai	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:20	10:00	WH291
	2 5 7	09:50	11:50	CA1567
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:50	17:50	WH2501
	2 4 6	16:30	18:45	SF202
Yulin — Xi'an	1 2 3 4 5	10:45	12:15	2Z202
	3 5 7	11:10	12:45	WH2266
Xi'an — Yulin	1 2 3 4 5	08:40	10:15	2Z201
	3 5 7	09:05	10:40	WH2265

Flights to and from Yan'an

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Yan'an	4	13:10	15:30	WH2132
Yan'an — Beijing	4	10:25	12:30	WH2131
Xi'an — Yan'an	4	08:50	09:55	WH2229
Yan'an — Xi'an	4	16:00	17:10	WH2230

Note: All timetables are for reference only, subject to changes by the airlines.

Average Climatic Conditions in Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Shaanxi, Shanxi and Yunnan

			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Beijing		Temperature (℃)	-4.6	-2.2	4.5	13.1	19.8	24.0	25.8	24.4	19.4	12.4	4.1	-2.7
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	7.4	8.6	19.4	33.1	77.8	192.5	212.3	57.0	24.0	6.6	2.6
Guangzhou		Temperature (℃)	13.3	14.4	17.9	21.9	25.6	27.2	28.4	28.1	26.9	23.7	19.4	15.2
		Rainfall (mm)	36.9	54.5	80.7	125.0	293.8	287.8	212.7	232.5	189.3	69.2	37.0	24.7
Shanghai		Temperature (℃)	3.5	4.6	8.3	14.0	18.8	23.3	27.8	27.7	23.6	18.0	12.3	6.2
		Rainfall (mm)	44.0	62.6	78.1	106.7	122.9	158.9	134.2	126.0	150.5	50.1	48.8	40.9
Shaanxi	Xi'an	Temperature (℃)	-1.0	2.1	8.1	14.1	19.1	25.2	26.6	25.5	19.4	13.7	6.6	0.7
		Rainfall (mm)	7.6	10.6	24.6	52.0	63.2	52.2	99.4	71.7	98.3	62.4	31.5	6.7
	Yan'an	Temperature (℃)	-6.4	-2.5	4.5	11.4	16.9	21.1	22.9	21.5	15.9	9.7	2.5	-4.5
		Rainfall (mm)	3.2	6.0	15.2	31.8	45.4	61.5	123.2	119.1	84.3	40.0	16.4	3.8
Shanxi	Datong	Temperature (℃)	-11.3	-7.7	-0.1	8.3	15.4	19.9	21.8	20.1	14.3	7.5	-1.4	-8.9
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	3.9	9.9	19.3	29.1	45.1	95.1	94.1	51.2	23.7	8.1	1.5
	Taiyuan	Temperature (℃)	-6.6	-3.1	3.7	11.4	17.7	21.7	23.5	21.8	16.1	9.9	2.1	-4.9
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	6.0	16.3	23.8	30.1	52.6	118.3	103.6	64.3	30.8	13.2	3.4
Shenzhen		Temperature (℃)	14.1	15.0	18.4	22.2	25.7	27.3	28.2	27.8	26.6	23.7	19.7	15.9
		Rainfall (mm)	27.2	43.0	58.1	133.3	247.3	326.6	327.4	346.0	268.8	96.2	35.9	23.5
Yunnan	Dali	Temperature (℃)	8.7	10.6	13.4	16.2	18.9	19.9	20.1	19.3	18.1	15.3	11.6	8.8
		Rainfall (mm)	16.8	25.5	32.1	20.3	66.7	187.9	179.3	229.0	157.4	116.9	34.6	12.4
	Kunming	Temperature (℃)	7.7	9.6	13.0	16.5	19.1	19.5	19.8	19.1	17.5	14.9	11.3	8.2
		Rainfall (mm)	11.6	11.2	15.2	21.1	93.0	183.7	212.3	202.2	119.5	85.0	38.6	13.0

Train Schedules
Shanghai — Hangzhou — Changsha — Guangzhou

371 O.	223/222 F.T.	209 F.T.	207/206 F.T.	Train No. / Station	208/205 F.T.	210 F.T.	221/224 F.T.	372 O.
	15:35		17:50	Shanghai	13:51		13:05	
16:25	–	09:20	–	Hangzhou	–	20:14	–	10:54
–	20:14	–	21:30	Hangzhou East	10:28	–	09:23	–
18:08	21:48	11:03	22:47	Zhuji	08:12	18:05	06:59	08:49
19:22	23:34	12:07	00:01	Yiwu	06:54	17:00	05:54	07:44
21:00	01:17	13:25	02:02	Jinhua	05:46	15:53	04:46	06:38
22:52	03:44	14:58	04:05	Quzhou	04:10	13:44	02:59	05:03
02:07	07:18	18:20	06:55	Shangrao	01:34	11:10	00:24	02:02
04:40	10:00	20:50	09:09	Yingtan	23:14	08:25	21:55	22:53
05:23	10:44	21:39	09:52	Dongxiang	22:18	06:53	20:43	21:56
06:05	11:24	22:21	10:31	Jinxian	21:36	–	19:58	21:16
07:24	13:19	–	–	Nanchang	–	–	18:23	19:55
	–	23:11	11:17	Xiangtang West	20:52	05:27	–	
	–	03:22	15:18	Yichun	16:10	01:18	–	
	–	07:14	19:08	Zhuzhou	12:53	22:16	–	
	–	–	20:06	Changsha	11:40	–	–	
	16:02	–		Jiujiang South		–	15:26	
	19:24	–		Tieshan		–	11:57	
	21:40	–		Wuchang		–	09:40	
		09:32		Hengyang		19:55		
		12:08		Chenzhou		17:17		
		15:10		Shaoguan		14:20		
		18:55		Guangzhou		10:20		

F.T. — Fast through passenger train
O. — Ordinary passenger train

Train Schedules
Beijing — Shijiazhuang — Handan — Taiyuan — Yuncheng

389 F.T.	373 F.T.	307 F.T.	Train No. / Station	308 F.T.	374 F.T.	390 F.T.
10:17	15:32	–	Beijing	–	08:37	18:37
–	–	23:40	Beijing South	15:03	–	–
–	16:36	00:45	Zhuozhou	13:41	07:22	17:16
12:39	17:53	01:54	Baoding	12:23	06:03	15:46
13:25	18:43	02:40	Dingzhou	11:30	05:10	14:48
–	–	03:47	Shijiazhuang	10:34	–	–
14:36	19:54	–	Shijiazhuang North	–	04:12	13:50
–	–	05:20	Xingtai	08:41	–	–
–	–	06:06	Handan	07:47	–	–
–	–		Fengfeng	06:20	–	–
17:22	22:29		Yangquan		01:36	10:05
20:11	01:34		Taiyuan		22:48	07:48
	04:12		Jiexiu		20:09	
	07:02		Linfen		–	
	09:40		Yuncheng		14:30	

Train Schedules
Taiyuan – Xi'an – Chengdu

235 F.T.	185 F.T.	Train No. / Station	186 F.T.	236 F.T.
16:41	13:09	Taiyuan	05:05	11:10
19:14	15:28	Jiexiu	02:54	08:45
21:45	17:52	Linfen	00:25	06:06
00:28	20:36	Yuncheng	21:57	03:38
02:15	22:16	Fenglingdu	20:14	01:47
03:20	23:06	Mengyuan	19:41	01:00
04:35	00:06	Weinan	18:19	23:31
05:50	01:09	Xi'an	17:15	22:30
06:38	01:39	Xianyang	16:39	21:32
09:18	04:25	Baoji	14:19	18:35
	06:49	Fengzhou	12:03	
	12:47	Guangyuan	05:25	
	18:30	Deyang	23:55	
	19:36	Chengdu	22:50	

Train Schedules
Shanghai – Hangzhou – Guangzhou

209 F.T.	49 Exp.	Train No. / Station	50 Exp.	210 F.T.
	10:00	Shanghai	20:30	
09:20	–	Hangzhou	–	20:21
–	13:16	Hangzhou East	17:28	–
13:30	16:36	Jinhua	14:07	15:35
20:55	22:12	Yingtan	08:07	08:33
23:11	00:10	Xiangtang West	06:05	05:30
04:55	04:31	Pingxiang	01:34	00:11
07:14	06:20	Zhuzhou	23:49	22:16
09:32	08:25	Hengyang	21:40	19:55
15:10	13:36	Shaoguan	16:29	14:20
18:55	16:46	Guangzhou	13:06	10:20

Exp. — Express

Train Schedules
Beijing — Zhengzhou — Changsha — Guangzhou — Xi'an

79 Exp.	47 Exp.	41 Exp.	29 Exp.	15 Exp.	Train No. / Station	16 Exp.	30 Exp.	42 Exp.	48 Exp.	80 Exp.
22:37	19:26	13:30	22:25	00:29	Beijing	04:30	06:00	11:28	08:49	06:45
00:40	21:22	15:26	–	–	Baoding	–	–	09:32	06:55	04:31
02:31	23:06	17:10	01:57	03:57	Shijiazhuang	01:14	02:44	07:55	05:18	02:54
04:49	–	19:07	–	–	Handan	–	–	05:44	–	00:18
05:52	02:05	22:27	–	–	Anyang	–	–	–	02:18	23:20
08:28	04:36	–	06:56	08:56	Zhengzhou	21:10	21:40	02:37	23:48	20:34
	08:33	–	10:53	12:53	Xinyang	16:10	17:40	–	19:48	
	12:19	–	14:21	16:21	Wuchang	12:29	13:59	–	15:51	
	17:39	–	19:27	21:41	Changsha	07:15	08:59	–	10:37	
	20:46	–	22:21	00:35	Hengyang	04:19	06:03	–	07:22	
	01:51	–	03:20	05:36	Shaoguan	23:21	01:07	–	02:28	
	04:57	–	06:29	08:45	Guangzhou	20:00	21:46	–	23:06	
		00:27			Luoyang			00:35		
		02:55			Sanmenxia West			22:11		
		06:17			Xi'an			18:35		

News

TOURIST INFORMATION

Beijing's West Station Opens

The Beijing Western Railway Station, the largest in Asia covering 500,000 square metres, opened in January. The station will service trains to major cities such as Guangzhou, Yichang, Zhanjiang, Luoyang, Nanchang, Shijiazhuang, Changsha, Lanzhou, Xining, Taiyuan, Chongqing, Kunming, Wuchang, Xi'an, Chengdu, Urümqi, Guiyang and Nanning.

On completion of the second phase of construction, in the year 2000, the station is expected to handle up to 90 runs – three times the handling capacity of the old Beijing Railway Station.

Beijing Tea Garden Theatre

The Tianqiaole Tea Garden Theatre opened aiming to promote Chinese traditional arts and international cultural exchange. Located in Tianqiao, the origins of folk culture in Beijing, it offers a combination of Beijing cuisine, Beijing Opera, local operas, martial arts, acrobatics, local culture and tea culture, and has been built as a traditional stage theatre. Visitors can experience its atmosphere and gain a further understanding of traditional Chinese culture.

Hangzhou's Round-the-Lake Tour

Hangzhou West Lake Pleasure Boat General Corporation is recommending a Round-the-Lake Tour to visitors. Operating between 16:30-18:00 every day the boat service allows tourist to enjoy and admire the elegant scene of a sunset over West Lake.

The cruise can be joined from the piers scattered in the First, Second, Third and Fifth parks and Huagang Fish-Viewing Pier. Pleasure boats of all sizes, as well as an imitation ancient pleasure boat, are available. The boats depart from the bank in the urban districts via Duanqiao (Broken Bridge), Baiti (White Embankment), Pinghuqiuyue (Calm Lake and Autumn Moon), Zhongshan Park, Huxin (Middle Lake) Pavilion, Santanyinyue (Three Pools Mirroring the Moon) Islands.

Yanyuan-Lugu Lake Highway Opens to Traffic

A highway between Yanyuan County, Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture and Lugu Lake in Sichuan has opened to traffic and will draw a number of tourists wanting to visit "Women's Kingdom" and Lugu Lake.

Located on the Sichuan-Yunnan boundary Lugu Lake area is one of the last territories of matriarchy featuring exotic folk customs and picturesque landscape attracting many curious visitors. But in the past visitors had to make a detour via Panzhihua, Sichuan or Ninglang, Yunnan. Shortened by 50 kilometres, the original eight-hour journey has been reduced to three hours.

More than 70 kilometres in length the highway is the longest in the prefecture's history of road construction.

Guilin Shanshui Golf Club Begins Operation

This magnificent golf club surrounded by mountains and lakes and the nearby Ming-dynasty Emperor Jingjiang's Mausoleum and Yaoshan Scenic Area, has begun operations in Guilin, Guangxi. The 7,000-yard-long, 72-standard rod and 18-hole course is situated at the southeastern foot of the picturesque Yaoshan Mountain in suburban Guilin. Covering an area of 67 hectares facilities include villa-style deluxe rooms equipped with a traditional Chinese medicinal bathing pool, Chinese, Japanese and Western restaurants, a horse riding centre, tennis courts, swimming pool, bar and karaoke.

This comprehensive holiday resort, combined with its golf course, is the first of its kind in Southwest China.

Replicas of Ancient Architecture, Inner Mongolia

"Kin-Yuan City", the largest scenic area containing replicas of ancient architecture has been built on the Ordos Plateau in Inner Mongolia. Covering an area of 1.5 hectares the city is composed of 14 buildings in Mongolian, Central Asian and Islamic architectural styles. It is the only film set to reflect the culture of the Kin and Yuan dynasties.

Kin-Yuan City, Genghis Khan Mausoleum and Xiangsha Bay form the three main scenic areas on the Ordos Plateau.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES

Qing-Dynasty Tombs

Groups of tombs from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) have been found at the construction site of a residential building in Hohhot, the capital of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Of the 60 tombs excavated most contain pottery cremation urns which are rare in the region, while others contain traditional wood coffins. More than 300 relics have been unearthed from the tombs including gold, silver and jade ornaments, snuff bottles and Qing-dynasty coins.

Chengdu's Dinosaur Fossils

Fossils of a giant dinosaur dating back 150 million years have been found near Zigong City in Southwest China's Sichuan Province. Some 170 well-preserved pieces of fossilized bones belonging to the dinosaur indicate that the creature was at least 20 metres long. With an overall height of 10 metres and weighing some 40 tons, the dinosaur is almost as big as the largest fossilized dinosaur ever found in Asia.

AIRLINE UPDATES

Direct Flights to Detroit

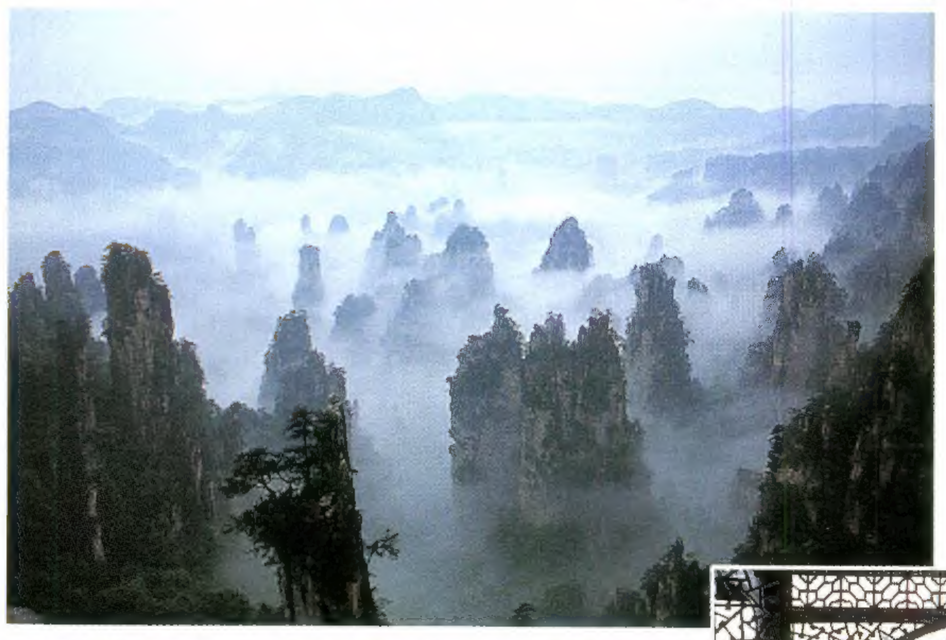
Northwest Airlines will soon launch a non-stop flight service from Beijing to Detroit, Michigan. The three weekly flights will reportedly represent the first non-stop service to and from China.

New Kunming-Vientiane Route

A new air link between Kunming in Southwest China's Yunnan Province and Vientiane, capital of Laos, opened to traffic earlier this year. The flight is operated by the Lao Aviation Development Venture Co Ltd (LADVCL), a joint venture of Laos and the Yunnan Aviation Company.

Next Issue

Spectacular Peaks and Limpid Waters – Splendours of the Wulingyuan Scenic Area



Our journey next month takes us to Hunan Province, first to the region referred to locally as Zhangjiajie, where parts of the Qingyan (Blue Crag) Mountain have been set aside to form Wulingyuan National Forest Park. Together with Suoxi Valley and Mount Tianzi scenic areas, the three offer a multitude of hikes through huge, natural stone pillars, deep valleys, craggy peaks and clear mountain streams. Largely untouristed, it remains a virgin area. Still in Hunan, we visit the picturesque mountain town of Fenghuang in which the simple wooden houses, overhanging the many steams passing through this area, delight visiting artists endeavouring to capture their charm on canvas.

Moving to the extreme northwest to the demonic landscape of Kuqa Ravine in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region where tortured land and rock formations have earned it the title of "Demon's Ravine". Lastly, to the more tranquil surroundings of the Bay of Great Buddhas in Leshan to marvel at the resident 3,000 statues, pictures and carvings ranging in size from 0.15 metres to a colossal 173 metres.

The Oriental Capital of Buddhas – A New Sanctuary in Leshan

Fenghuang – A Mountain Town in Western Hunan

Adventure into Demon's Ravine

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Dunhuang Grottoes, built up from AD 386–1367 (the Northern Wei Dynasty – the Yuan Dynasty), are among the greatest existing treasure troves of Buddhist art in the world. Dunhuang Cigarettes, one of the famous brand manufactured by Shanghai Cigarette Factory (1925–1995), China.

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